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1902

# PROCEEDINGS

OF

# THE GRAND

# HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

# OF PENNSYLVANIA

AND

# MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1907
BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH YEAR

---

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA BY
MACCALLA & COMPANY INC., 237 DOCK ST.
1908

Engd by W T Bather. N Y

William B. Meredith

M E Grand High Priest

1907 - 1908.

# THE GRAND
# HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
## OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1795–1907.

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## QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

MARCH 7, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comp. | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, | *M. E. Grand High Priest* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., Past Grand High Priest, | *acting M. E. Grand Treasurer* |
| " | CHARLES CARY, | *M. E. Grand Secretary.* |
| " | STOCKTON BATES, | *Assistant Grand Secretary.* |
| " | REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. HORACE F. FULLER, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. CHARLES H. BOND, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, | *Grand Captain of the Host.* |
| " | SAMUEL LAUGHLIN, | *Grand Principal Sojourner.* |
| " | JOHN C. TAYLOR, | *Grand Royal Arch Captain.* |
| " | SYLVESTER S. GARWOOD, | as *Grand Master of the Third Vail.* |
| " | S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, | *Grand Master of the Second Vail.* |
| " | FRANK W. MARTENIS, | *Grand Master of the First Vail.* |
| " | GEORGE B. WELLS, | *Grand Marshal.* |
| " | G. ELLWOOD WAGNER, | *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | DAVID CARLIN, | *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | AUGUST P. KUNZIG, | *Grand Pursuivant.* |
| " | WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, | *Grand Tyler.* |

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*District Deputy Grand High Priests:*—Companions HENRY A. JENKS, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, ALLEN S. HECKMAN, HENRY L. MOORE, PETER K. FILBERT, WILLIAM F. SHAY, THOMAS J. PARMLEY, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, GEORGE W. VERNES, WINFIELD S. BELL, WILLIAM NAGEL, JOHN C. WALLACE, PETER BARKEY, CHARLES E. COOPER.

*Past Grand High Priests:*—M. E. Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EZRA S. BARTLETT, EDWARD B. SPENCER, J. HENRY WILLIAMS

*Grand Representatives.*

Comp ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, of the Grand Chapter of California.
" JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and N. Carolina.
" DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
" GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
" JOHN A. PERRY, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
" SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
" MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, of Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.
" GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
" CHARLES F. WIGNALL, of Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.
" S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
" CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.
" EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
" STOCKTON BATES, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
" JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
" PETER BARKEY, of Grand Chapter of South Dakota.
" HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 163, 167, 169, 170, 171, 175, 176, 182, 183, 185, 189, 190, 196, 197, 198, 199, 201, 202, 208, 215, 216, 219, 220, 221, 223, 226, 232, 233, 234, 236, 237, 240, 243, 246, 247, 248, 250, 251, 252, 256, 257, 258, 262, 264, 270, 271, 278, 282, 284, 286. (57 Chapters.) (165 members.) (32 visitors.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Annual Grand Communication held on St. John's Day, Thursday, December 27, 1906, were read and approved.

Copies of proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 172, 180, 190, 203, 256 and 260 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance presented the following

## QUARTERLY REPORT.

PHILADELPHIA, March 1, 1907.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of*
*The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from November 20, 1906, to March 1, 1907, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance on hand, November 20, 1906, | | $1,279 61 |
| **RECEIPTS.** | | |
| From Masonic Loan, | $20,000 00 | |
| From Chapters, | 8,116 85 | |
| From Interest on Investments, | 430 75 | |
| From Constitutions, | 10 00 | |
| From Certificates, | 8 00 | |
| From Dispensation, | 1 00 | 28,566 60 |
| | | $29,846 21 |
| **EXPENDITURES.** | | |
| Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest, | $750 00 | |
| Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests, | 1,162 01 | |
| Masonic Home, | 1,000 00 | |
| Salaries, | 687 50 | |
| Past Grand High Priest's Jewel, | 100 00 | |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery, | 80 25 | |
| Clothing and Furniture, | 25 95 | |
| Investment, | 19,373 89 | 23,179 60 |
| Balance on hand, March 1, 1907, | | $6,666 61 |

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held in December last, the $20,000.00 Masonic Temple 4% Redemption Loan held by the Grand Chapter was called for payment; interest to cease after March 1, 1907.

In order to facilitate the reinvestment the Grand Lodge anticipated the payment of the Loan, and on February 5, 1907, paid over to the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter $20,000.00.

M. E. Companion J. Henry Williams, Past Grand High Priest, at the request of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William B. Meredith, and acting in conjunction with the M. E. Grand Treasurer, the M. E. Grand Secretary and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, have made the following investments of the fund, all in the name of "The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania," viz.:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Reading Co. Jersey Central Collateral 4% Coupon Bonds, principal registered, due 1951; interest payable April 1 and October 1: | | |
| No. 19,953 . . . . . | $1,000 00 | |
| No. 19,954 . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 19,955, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 19,956, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 19,957, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | $5,000 00 |
| Cost $4,800.00. | | |
| Pennsylvania Gold Loan, 4% Coupon Bonds, principal registered, due 1931; interest payable April 1 and October 1: | | |
| No. 5,976, . . . . . | $1,000 00 | |
| No. 5,977, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 5,978, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 5,979, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 5,980, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | 5,000 00 |
| Cost $4,898.89. | | |
| Reading General Mortgage 4% Coupon Bonds, principal registered, due 1997; interest payable January 1 and July 1: | | |
| No. 32,555, . . . . . | $1,000 00 | |
| No. 32,556, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 42,522, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 47,884, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 62,867, . . . . . | 1,000 00 | 5,000 00 |
| Cost $4,875.00. | | |
| *Carried forward*, . . . . | | $15,000 00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Brought forward,* | | $15,000 00 |
| Electric and People's 4% Bonds, principal and interest registered, due 1945; interest payable April 1 and October 1: | | |
| No. 9,448, | $1,000 00 | |
| No. 9,449, | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 9,450, | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 9,451, | 1,000 00 | |
| No. 9,452, | 1,000 00 | 5,000 00 |
| Cost $4,800.00. | | |
| Total, | | $20,000 00 |

Total cost $19,373.89.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
*Committee.*

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was received and the Resolutions attached thereto were adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, March 5, 1907.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 172, 180, 190, 203, 256 and 260, and offer the following Resolutions:

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 172 be not approved, but recommend that said Chapter adopt a new Code of By-Laws in accordance with the Form prescribed by Grand Chapter.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 180, 190 and 260 be approved, and that said Chapters be directed to further amend their By-Laws to conform to the Rules and Regulations of Grand Chapter.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 203 and 256 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) STEPHEN H. APPLETON,
JOSEPH M. WIATT,
JOHN E. POORE,
JOSEPH W. KENWORTHY,
*Committee.*

The Committee on Printing and Publishing presented the following Report:

PHILADELPHIA, March 7, 1907.

*William B. Meredith,*
*M. E. Grand High Priest.*

MOST EXCELLENT SIR AND COMPANION:—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing beg leave to report that bids for printing the Proceedings of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter for the year 1906 were asked from several reputable firms, and the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, Messrs. MacCalla & Company Incorporated.

The work is now being distributed in accordance with the terms of the contract.

(Signed) LOUIS M. WAGNER,
JAMES W. R. WASHINGTON,
ALEXANDER MCCUNE,
ROBERT F. MUSTIN, JR.,
*Committee.*

General Returns were received from Chapters Nos. 21, 43, 52, 150, 161, 162, 163, 165, 166, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 185, 186, 187, 191, 192, 196, 198, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 210, 211, 212, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 225, 227, 228, 230, 233, 234, 236, 241, 244, 245, 246, 247, 249, 251, 254, 255, 256, 259, 260, 261, 263, 265, 266, 267, 269, 270, 272, 274, 276, 277, 279, 285, and Mark Lodges Nos. 91, 214, 216.

The M. E. Grand High Priest stated that his decision had been asked as to the authority for the appointment of a Guide or Guides, and that he could find no provision in the Constitution for such appointment; but, recognizing the importance of these officers, he thought the Constitution should be amended in this particular, whereupon Companion DANIEL W. HUTCHIN offered the following amendment:

MASONIC TEMPLE, BROAD AND FILBERT STREETS,
PHILADELPHIA, March 7, 1907.

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST:—For the purpose of overcoming the difficulty suggested by your remarks, I respectfully propose the following Amendment to the Constitution:

*Resolved*:—that Article XIV, Section 6, be amended to read as follows: The officers of a Chapter are: Most Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, three Masters of the Vails, Senior Master of Ceremonies, Junior Master of Ceremonies, Guides, Pursuivant and Tyler, to which may be added Chaplains and Stewards.

Which resolution was laid over for action until the Quarterly Communication in December next.

A Missive was received appointing M. E. Companion JAMES S. BARBER Representative of the Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware.

On motion, Companion JAMES S. BARBER was received and acknowledged as such Representative.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the deaths of distinguished Companions, as follows:

M. E. Companion GEORGE DAVIS, Past Grand High

Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of West Virginia. Died November 19, 1906.

M. E. Companion PHINEAS MESSENGER SAVERY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, Royal Arch Masons. Died December 20, 1906.

M. E. Companion EDWARD J. CHURCH, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana. Died January 30, 1907.

M. E. Companion CHARLES L. STEVENS, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. Died January 30, 1907.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Mark Master Mason's Degree.

A Lodge of Mark Master Masons was opened, and the Degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Mark Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and five minutes P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary*

# QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

JUNE 6, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comp. | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, | *M. E. Grand High Priest.* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., Past Grand High Priest, | *acting M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |
| " | CHARLES CARY, | *M. E. Grand Secretary.* |
| " | STOCKTON BATES, | *Assistant Grand Secretary.* |
| " | REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. CHARLES H. BOND, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. WOOD, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, | *Grand Captain of the Host.* |
| " | SAMUEL LAUGHLIN, | *Grand Principal Sojourner.* |
| " | JOHN C. TAYLOR, | *Grand Royal Arch Captain.* |
| " | SYLVESTER S. GARWOOD, | as *Grand Master of the Third Vail.* |
| " | S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, | as *Grand Master of the Second Vail.* |
| " | FRANK W. MARTENIS, | *Grand Master of the First Vail.* |
| " | GEORGE B. WELLS, | *Grand Marshal.* |
| " | G. ELLWOOD WAGNER. | *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | JOHN FETCH, | *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | AUGUST P. KUNZIG, | *Grand Pursuivant.* |
| " | WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, | *Grand Tyler.* |

*District Deputy Grand High Priests:*—Companions HENRY A. JENKS, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, ALLEN S. HECKMAN, HENRY L. MOORE, PETER K. FILBERT, WILLIAM F. SHAY, GEORGE W. VERNES, WINFIELD S. BELL, JOHN C. WALLACE, CHARLES E. COOPER.

*Past Grand High Priests:*—Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER

H. Morgan, Ezra S. Bartlett, Edward B. Spencer, J. Henry Williams.

*Grand Representatives.*

Comp. Alexander H. Morgan, of Grand Chapter of California.
" James S. Barber, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and N.Carolina.
" Daniel W. Hutchin, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
" George B. Wells, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
" Samuel W. Wray, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
" William B. Meredith, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
" J. Henry Williams, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
" George W. Kendrick, Jr., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
" Charles F. Wignall, of Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.
" S. E. Burke Kinsloe, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
" Ezra S. Bartlett, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
" Charles Cary, of Grand Chapter of New York.
" Carl A. Sundstrom, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.
" Edward B. Spencer, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
" Stockton Bates, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
" Joseph M. Wiatt, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
" Hibbert P. John, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" William A. Sinn, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
" Matthias H. Henderson, of Grand Chapter of Victoria.

Chapters Nos. 3, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 162, 163, 169, 170, 173, 175, 182, 183, 186, 190, 193, 196, 197, 198, 199, 202, 208, 216, 220, 223, 226, 232, 233, 234, 236, 237, 239, 240, 243, 244, 246, 247, 248, 250, 251, 252, 256, 257, 258, 262, 266, 267, 270, 271, 275, 277, 278, 280, 284. (55 Chapters.) (159 members.) (19 visitors.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

Past Grand High Priest Isaac F. Stidham, of Connecticut, honored the Chapter with his presence.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, March 7, 1907, were read and approved.

A copy of proposed By-Laws from Chapter No. 279

and copies of proposed Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 173, 251, 257, and 284 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

QUARTERLY REPORT.

PHILADELPHIA, May 31, 1907.

*To the M E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from March 1, 1907, to May 31, 1907, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance on hand, March 1, 1907, | | $6,666 61 |
| **RECEIPTS.** | | |
| From Chapters and Mark Lodges, | $1,091 40 | |
| From Interest on Investments, | 340 00 | |
| From Constitutions, | 12 00 | |
| From Dispensations, | 1 00 | 1,460 40 |
| | | $8,127 01 |
| **EXPENDITURES.** | | |
| Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest, | $1,000 00 | |
| Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests, | 21 49 | |
| Salaries, | 687 50 | |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery, | 663 27 | |
| Clothing, Furniture, etc., | 24 50 | |
| Investment, | 1,903 94 | 4,300 70 |
| Balance on hand, May 31, 1907, | | $3,826 31 |

Fraternally submitted,

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
*Committee.*

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, when the Resolutions attached thereto were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, June 4, 1907.

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 279 and the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 173, 251, 257 and 284, and respectfully offer the following Resolutions:

*Resolved:*—that the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 279 be not approved, and that said Chapter be directed to adopt a new Code of By-Laws to conform to the Rules and Regulations of Grand Chapter.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 284 be not approved.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapter Nos. 173, 251 and 257 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
JOSEPH M. WIATT,
STEPHEN H. APPLETON,
JOHN E. POORE,
*Committee.*

A Communication was received from Past Grand High Priest, Companion H. OSCAR KLINE, tendering his regards to the members of Grand Chapter and regretting his inability to be present at this Quarterly Session of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the deaths of distinguished Companions, as follows:

R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion ALEXANDER FRASER, of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Montana. Died March 27, 1907.

M. E. Companion DANIEL T. ORDEMAN, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland. Died February 16, 1907.

M. E. Companion THOMAS NICHOL, Past Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Colorado. Died March 25, 1907.

M. E. Companion GEORGE KEITH KIMBALL, Past Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Colorado. Died April 8, 1907.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Most Excellent Master Mason's Degree.

A Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was opened, and the Degree of Most Excellent Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The M. E. Grand High Priest addressed Grand Chapter, calling attention to the number of *Marks* yet unrecorded and urging upon the subordinate Chapters the importance of securing compliance with the regulations of Grand Chapter.

In response to the request of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Past Grand High Priest Companion ISAAC F. STIDHAM, of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, addressed

330115

Grand Chapter in a most pleasing vein, his theme being based on a text taken from the work of the Most Excellent Master Mason's Degree.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at ten o'clock and twelve minutes P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary*

# QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

SEPTEMBER 5, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comp. | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, | *M. E. Grand High Priest.* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., Past Grand High Priest, | *acting M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |
| " | CHARLES CARY, | *M. E. Grand Secretary.* |
| " | STOCKTON BATES, | *Assistant Grand Secretary.* |
| " | REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. WOOD, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. CHARLES H. BOND, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, | *Grand Captain of the Host.* |
| " | SAMUEL LAUGHLIN, | *Grand Principal Sojourner.* |
| " | JOHN C. TAYLOR, | *Grand Royal Arch Captain.* |
| " | FRANCIS J. CALLAHAN, | as *Grand Master of the Third Vail.* |
| " | S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, | *Grand Master of the Second Vail.* |
| " | FRANK W. MARTENIS, | *Grand Master of the First Vail.* |
| " | GEORGE B. Wells, | *Grand Marshal.* |
| " | G. ELLWOOD WAGNER, | *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | DAVID CARLIN, | *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | AUGUST P. KUNZIG, | *Grand Pursuivant.* |
| " | WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, | *Grand Tyler.* |

*District Deputy Grand High Priests:*—Companions HENRY A. JENKS, JOSEPH C. EGBERT, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, ALLEN S. HECKMAN, HENRY L. MOORE, PETER K. FILBERT, WILLIAM F. SHAY, THOMAS J. PARMLEY, GEORGE W. VERNES, WINFIELD S. BELL.

*Past Grand High Priests:*—Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W.

KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, EZRA S. BARTLETT, HENRY OSCAR KLINE, J. HENRY WILLIAMS.

*Grand Representatives.*

Comp. JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and N. Carolina.
" DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
" H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
" GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
" FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
" JOHN A. PERRY, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
" SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
" GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
" CHARLES F. WIGNALL, of Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.
" S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
" CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.
" STOCKTON BATES, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
" JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
" HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
" LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.

Chapters Nos. 3, 43, 52, 91, 152, 163, 167, 169, 170, 171, 173, 175, 177, 182, 183, 186, 190, 196, 197, 198, 199, 201, 202, 208, 214, 216, 219, 220, 221, 226, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 246, 247, 248, 251, 252, 255, 256, 257, 258, 262, 266, 267, 271, 278, 284, 286. (52 Chapters.) (125 members.) (25 visitors.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, June 6, 1907, were read and approved.

Copies of proposed Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 91 and 193 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance made the following

## QUARTERLY REPORT.

PHILADELPHIA, August 30, 1907.

*To the M. E. High Priest, Officers and Members of*
*The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from May 31, 1907, to August 30, 1907, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance on hand, May 31, 1906, | $3,826 31 |

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From Chapters and Mark Lodges, | $605 95 | |
| From Interest on Investments, | 178 75 | |
| From Interest on Deposits, | 35 67 | |
| From Certificates, | 2 00 | |
| From Constitutions, | 7 00 | |
| From Dispensations, | 1 00 | 830 37 |
| | | $4,656 68 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Salaries, | $687 50 | |
| Clothing and Furniture, | 24 50 | 712 00 |
| Balance in hands of M.E. Grand Treasurer, August 30, 1907, | | $3,944 68 |

Fraternally submitted,

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
*Committee.*

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was accepted, and the Resolution attached thereto was, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted

PHILADELPHIA, September 3, 1907.

*To The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 91 and 193, and offer the following Resolution:

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 91 and 193 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSEPH M. WIATT,
JOHN E. POORE,
*For Committee.*

## The M. E. Grand Secretary presented the following Report:

PHILADELPHIA, September 5, A.D., 1907.

*To The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania,*
*and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.*

COMPANIONS:—The Grand Secretary presents the Annual Report of the Work and Membership of the Chapters and Mark Lodges of the Jurisdiction for the year ending on December 27, 1906:

CHAPTERS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Membership, December 27, 1905, as per last report, | | 25,309 |
| Admitted during the year 1906, | 139 | |
| Restored to Membership, | 59 | |
| Marked, etc., | 1,964 | 2,162 |
| Total, | | 27,471 |

*Deduct.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Died during the year 1906, | 369 | |
| Resigned or Membership ceased, | 176 | |
| Suspended or expelled, | 235 | 780 |
| Membership, December 27, 1906, per returns, | | 26,691 |
| A net gain of | 1,382 | |
| Rejected during 1906, | 99 | |
| Restored to G. M. S., | 18 | |

## MARK LODGES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Membership, December 27, 1905, | | 554 |
| *Deduct.* | | |
| Died during the year 1906, | 33 | 33 |
| Membership, December 27, 1906, per returns, | | 521 |
| Number of Chapters, December 27, 1906, | 127 | |
| Number of Mark Lodges, | 3 | |

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary.*

## STATISTICS.

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Jerusalem, | 36 | 6 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 458 |
| 21 | Perseverance, | 25 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 229 |
| 43 | | 10 | | 4 | 2 | 4 | 285 |
| 52 | Harmony, | 45 | 1 | 26 | 9 | 8 | 1,187 |
| 91 | Columbia, | 45 | 2 | 21 | 4 | 2 | 605 |
| 150 | Washington, | 34 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 234 |
| 152 | Reading, | 11 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 233 |
| 159 | Schuylkill, | | | | | | 38 |
| 161 | Union, | 8 | | 2 | | | 224 |
| 162 | Zerubbabel, | 57 | 9 | 11 | 1 | 19 | 979 |
| 163 | LaFayette, | 7 | 1 | 3 | | | 123 |
| 164 | Brownsville, | 11 | 1 | | | | 135 |
| 165 | Union, | 15 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 203 |
| 166 | Mount Moriah, | 8 | | 3 | | | 102 |
| 167 | Eureka, | 12 | | 3 | | 2 | 115 |
| 169 | Philadelphia, | 17 | | 8 | 3 | | 254 |
| 170 | Delta, | 33 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 287 |
| 171 | St. John's, | 11 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 110 |
| 172 | Temple, | 7 | | 2 | | 2 | 97 |
| 173 | Easton, | 17 | 2 | 5 | 3 | | 243 |
| 174 | Northumberland, | 17 | | 2 | | 2 | 91 |
| 175 | Keystone, | 27 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 543 |
| 176 | Geo. Washington, | 12 | 1 | 1 | | | 109 |
| 177 | Tamaqua, | 2 | | 2 | | | 54 |
| 178 | Catawissa, | 3 | | | | | 28 |
| 179 | Eureka, | 11 | | 2 | | 1 | 139 |

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 180 | Warren, | 2 | | 1 | | 2 | 30 |
| 181 | Lilly, | 6 | | 3 | | 2 | 122 |
| 182 | Shekinah, | 28 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 17 | 342 |
| 183 | Oriental, | 53 | 8 | 24 | 13 | 33 | 1,177 |
| 185 | Lackawanna, | 39 | 6 | 4 | | | 397 |
| 186 | Lewistown, | 8 | | 2 | | | 90 |
| 187 | Oriental, | 6 | | | 1 | | 70 |
| 189 | Mountain, | 14 | 2 | 5 | | | 330 |
| 190 | Norristown, | 25 | | 6 | 1 | 2 | 376 |
| 191 | Solomon, | 9 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 82 |
| 192 | Urania, | 35 | | 1 | 1 | | 287 |
| 193 | Duquesne, | 61 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 786 |
| 194 | Tioga, | 2 | | 1 | | 6 | 57 |
| 195 | Portage, | 20 | | 2 | | 1 | 178 |
| 196 | Mountain City, | 12 | | 2 | 1 | | 134 |
| 197 | Weidle, | 7 | | 2 | | | 132 |
| 198 | Phœnix, | 9 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 208 |
| 199 | Howell, | 12 | 5 | 3 | 5 | | 203 |
| 200 | Columbus, | 7 | 2 | 1 | | 5 | 93 |
| 201 | Standing Stone, | 8 | | | | 1 | 98 |
| 202 | Howell, | 4 | | 1 | | 1 | 99 |
| 203 | Allen, | 28 | | 2 | | 1 | 242 |
| 204 | Anthony Wayne, | 6 | | 1 | | | 70 |
| 205 | Factoryville, | 5 | 4 | 4 | | | 58 |
| 206 | Harmony, | 11 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 111 |
| 207 | Aaron, | 6 | 1 | | | 2 | 57 |
| 208 | Germantown, | 16 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 230 |
| 209 | Samuel C. Perkins, | 1 | | | 1 | | 68 |
| 210 | Great Bend, | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 36 |
| 211 | Venango, | 13 | 3 | | | 1 | 189 |
| 212 | Mound, | 10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 145 |
| 214 | Valley, | 7 | | | | | 100 |
| 215 | Temple, | 11 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 267 |
| 216 | Zinzendorf, | 5 | | | | | 114 |
| 217 | Allegheny, | 35 | 4 | 8 | | 3 | 771 |
| 218 | Bloomsburg, | 3 | | 1 | | 2 | 69 |
| 219 | Griscom, | 6 | | 2 | | | 93 |
| 220 | Fort Washington, | 1 | | 2 | | | 36 |
| 221 | Tremont, | 4 | | 1 | | | 70 |
| 222 | Lycoming, | 29 | 1 | 8 | | | 318 |
| 223 | Oxford, | 14 | | 2 | 1 | | 87 |
| 224 | Corinthian, | 6 | | | | | 121 |

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 225 | Jefferson, | 17 | | 2 | | | 243 |
| 226 | Siloam, | 14 | 2 | 6 | 3 | | 223 |
| 227 | Emporium, | 6 | | 1 | 1 | | 78 |
| 228 | Clearfield, | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | | 167 |
| 230 | Elk, | 6 | | | 1 | | 130 |
| 232 | St. John, | 11 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 286 |
| 233 | Kensington, | 15 | 1 | | 15 | 3 | 508 |
| 234 | Media, | 6 | 1 | | | 1 | 92 |
| 235 | Occidental, | 15 | | 2 | 1 | | 131 |
| 236 | Oil City, | 11 | | 2 | 2 | | 149 |
| 237 | Excelsior | 15 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 429 |
| 238 | Newport, | | | 1 | | | 55 |
| 239 | Danville, | 9 | 1 | 4 | | 2 | 74 |
| 240 | Palestine, | 52 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 501 |
| 241 | Bellefonte, | 12 | 1 | | | | 103 |
| 242 | Pittston, | 12 | | 2 | 2 | | 129 |
| 243 | T. B. Freeman, | 40 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 722 |
| 244 | Norman, | 9 | | 1 | | 1 | 154 |
| 245 | Abington, | 7 | 2 | 3 | | | 82 |
| 246 | Warrior Run, | 6 | | 1 | 1 | | 101 |
| 247 | Orient, | 41 | 6 | 2 | | | 224 |
| 248 | Temple, | 27 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 241 |
| 249 | Monongahela, | 22 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 213 |
| 250 | Corinthian, | 20 | 4 | 4 | 2 | | 336 |
| 251 | Signet, | 33 | 2 | | 1 | | 161 |
| 252 | Mizpah, | | | 2 | | | 90 |
| 254 | Arnold, | | | | | 3 | 34 |
| 255 | Bedford, | 7 | | 4 | | 2 | 74 |
| 256 | University, | 36 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 434 |
| 257 | Shiloh, | 16 | | 4 | 1 | 7 | 572 |
| 258 | Chester, | 30 | | 3 | 1 | 1 | 318 |
| 259 | Eden, | 12 | | | | 2 | 149 |
| 260 | Bradford, | 7 | | 4 | 2 | 4 | 278 |
| 261 | Troy, | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 68 |
| 262 | Montgomery, | 9 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 174 |
| 263 | Coudersport, | 1 | | | 2 | | 64 |
| 264 | Shamokin, | 2 | 2 | 3 | | | 111 |
| 265 | Westfield, | | | 2 | | 1 | 36 |
| 266 | Good Samaritan, | 7 | 19 | 2 | 22 | | 100 |
| 267 | Coatesville, | 9 | | | 1 | 1 | 122 |
| 268 | Pittsburgh, | 38 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 408 |
| 269 | Ulysses, | 6 | 1 | | | | 38 |

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 270 | Doylestown, | 16 | | 2 | | | 106 |
| 271 | Pottstown, | 5 | | 2 | | 3 | 126 |
| 272 | Hebron, | 9 | | 1 | 1 | | 74 |
| 273 | Butler, | 14 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 180 |
| 274 | Bangor, | 7 | | 2 | | 3 | 67 |
| 275 | Kennett, | 5 | | | 1 | | 52 |
| 276 | The Susquehanna, | 6 | | | 1 | | 73 |
| 277 | Hazleton, | 10 | 4 | 1 | | | 145 |
| 278 | Catasauqua, | 16 | 1 | 3 | | 1 | 116 |
| 279 | Kane, | 4 | | | | 1 | 73 |
| 280 | Cyrus, | 35 | | 1 | | 1 | 229 |
| 281 | Monroe, | 2 | | | | | 100 |
| 282 | McKeesport, | 34 | | 2 | 1 | | 340 |
| 283 | Connellsville, | 15 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | 106 |
| 284 | Melita, | 66 | 11 | 1 | | | 343 |
| 285 | Wilkinsburg, | 32 | | | | | 184 |
| 286 | Bellevue, | 18 | 1 | 1 | | | 127 |
| | | 1,964 | 198 | 369 | 174 | 237 | 26,691 |

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows :

M. E. Companion THOMAS MONTGOMERY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota, and M. E. Grand Secretary at the time of his death. Died June 7, 1907.

M. E. Companion GEORGE W. LININGER, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska. Died June 8, 1907.

M. E. Companion CHARLES OTTO UNFUG, Past Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Colorado. Died June 27, 1907.

M. E. Companion PHILANDER W. BARCLAY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons,

State of Illinois, and Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter. Died July 6, 1907.

M. E. Companion GIDEON RANSOM GWYNNE, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, State of Tennessee, U.S.A. Died July 23, 1907.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Royal Arch Degree.

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened and the Degree of Royal Arch Mason was exemplified.

The Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and thirty minutes P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary.*

# QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

DECEMBER 5, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comp. | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, | *M. E. Grand High Priest.* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., Past Grand High Priest, | *acting M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |
| " | STOCKTON BATES, | *acting M. E. Grand Secretary.* |
| " | REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. HORACE F. FULLER, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. WOOD, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. CHARLES H. BOND, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. J. GRAY BOLTON, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, | *Grand Captain of the Host.* |
| " | SAMUEL LAUGHLIN, | *Grand Principal Sojourner.* |
| " | JOHN C. TAYLOR, | *Grand Royal Arch Captain.* |
| " | PORTER W. LOWRY, | *Grand Master of the Third Vail.* |
| " | S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, | *Grand Master of the Second Vail.* |
| " | FRANK W. MARTENIS, | *Grand Master of the First Vail.* |
| " | GEORGE B. WELLS, | *Grand Marshal.* |
| " | G. ELLWOOD WAGNER, | *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | DAVID CARLIN, | *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | AUGUST P. KUNZIG, | *Grand Pursuivant.* |
| " | WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, | *Grand Tyler.* |

*District Deputy Grand High Priests:*—Companions HENRY A. JENKS, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, ALLEN S. HECKMAN, REUBEN A. ZIMMERMAN, HENRY L. MOORE, PETER K. FILBERT, WILLIAM F. SHAY, THOMAS J. PARMLEY, GEORGE W. VERNES, CYRUS H. BLOOD, WINFIELD S. BELL, WILLIAM NAGEL, JOHN C. WALLACE, PETER BARKEY, CHARLES E. COOPER.

*Past Grand High Priests:*—Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, HENRY OSCAR KLINE, J. HENRY WILLIAMS.

*Grand Representatives.*

Comp. ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, of Grand Chapter of California.
" WILLIAM M. DONALDSON, of Grand Chapter of Colorado.
" JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and N. Carolina.
" DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
" H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
" GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
" FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
" JOHN A. PERRY, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
" SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
" EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
" ALEXANDER MCCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
" GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
" CHARLES F. WIGNALL, of Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.
" S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.
" STOCKTON BATES, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
" JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
" PETER BARKEY, of Grand Chapter of South Dakota.
" HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
" LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.
" JOHN C. WALLACE, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 167, 169, 170, 171, 172, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 181, 182, 183, 185, 189, 190, 192, 193, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 211, 214, 215, 216, 217, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 230, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 254, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 266, 267, 270, 271, 273, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286. (103 Chapters.) (260 members.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at two o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, September 5, 1907, were read and approved.

Copies of proposed By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 164, 204, 274, 279, and 190, 196, 244, and 267 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance made the following

## QUARTERLY REPORT.

PHILADELPHIA, November 29, 1907.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of*
*The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the late M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the present M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Edward B. Spencer, P.G.H.P., and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from August 30, 1907, to November 20, 1907, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance on hand, August 31, 1907, | | $3,944 68 |
| **RECEIPTS.** | | |
| From Chapters, | $1,142 40 | |
| Interest on Investments, | 300 00 | |
| Interest on Deposits, | 47 05 | |
| Constitutions, | 2 00 | |
| Dispensations, | 6 00 | 1,497 45 |
| | | $5,442 13 |
| **EXPENDITURES.** | | |
| Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest, | $1,250 00 | |
| Rent, | 1,500 00 | |
| Salaries, | 687 50 | |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery, | 240 69 | 3,678 19 |
| Balance on hand, November 20, 1907, | | $1,763 94 |

We also attach to this report the following extract from the minutes of the Committee:

Since our last meeting this Committee has lost by death one of its honored members, Companion Charles W. Packer, who died at his home in this city on September 30, 1907, aged seventy-eight years.

Companion Charles W. Packer was made a Mason in Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, F. & A. M., in 1863, of which Lodge he was Worshipful Master in 1870.

He received the degree of Mark Master Mason in Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 216, in 1863, and the degrees of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason in Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, No. 3, in 1867. He became a member of the Grand Chapter in 1870, and was ever conspicuous for the active interest he took in its progress and welfare.

He was a member of the Committee on Centennial Celebration of the Grand Chapter in 1895, and was first appointed on the Finance Committee of Grand Chapter December, 1875, and at the time of his death had served nearly twenty-eight years as a member of this Committee.

Companion Packer was faithful and efficient in the discharge of his duties, his worth and ability receiving merited recognition by his almost continuous reappointment on the Committee.

Of mildest and unassuming personality, his kindly nature endeared him to those who knew him, and in all the relations of life he held the confidence and regard of those with whom he came in contact.

In his death we have lost a dear friend; the Grand Chapter and Free Masonry in all its branches one of its most ardent and devoted supporters.

It is with heartfelt sorrow that we record this minute in loving remembrance of our departed Companion and associate, Charles W. Packer.

Fraternally submitted,

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB M. JACKSON,
*Committee.*

## The Committee on Finance made the following Annual Report:

PHILADELPHIA, November 29, 1907.

*To the M. E. High Priest, Officers and Members of*
*The Grand H. R. Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report:

Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer, November 20, 1906, $1,279 61

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From Masonic Loan called and paid February 5, 1907, | $20,000 00 | |
| Chapters and Mark Lodges, | 10,955 60 | |
| Interest on Investments, | 1,249 50 | |
| Interest on Deposits, | 82 72 | |
| Certificates, | 32 00 | |
| Dispensations, | 4 00 | |
| Constitutions, | 31 00 | 32,354 82 |
| | | $33,634 43 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest, | $3,000 00 | |
| Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests, | 1,183 50 | |
| Rent, | 1,500 00 | |
| Salaries, | 2,750 00 | |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery, | 1,059 16 | |
| Masonic Home, | 1,000 00 | |
| Jewel, | 100 00 | |
| Investments, | 4,277 83 | 31,870 49 |

Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer, November 20, 1907, $1,763 94

The Committee presents the following estimates for the year ending November 20, 1908:

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance on hand, | $1,763 94 |

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From Chapters and Mark Lodges, | $10,300 00 | |
| Interest on Investments, | 1,037 50 | |
| Constitutions, Dispensations, etc., | 25 00 | 11,362 50 |
| | | $13,126 44 |

## EXPENDITURES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest, | $3,000 00 | |
| Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests, | 1,300 00 | |
| Masonic Home, | 1,000 00 | |
| Salaries—M. E. Grand Secretary, | 2,000 00 | |
| Assistant Grand Secretary, | 600 00 | |
| Grand Tyler, | 250 00 | |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery, | 1,300 00 | |
| Rent, | 1,500 00 | |
| Clothing and Furniture, | 150 00 | |
| Investments, | 2,000 00 | 13,100 00 |
| Estimated balance, | | $26 44 |

We offer the following resolutions:—

*Resolved:*—that the Grand Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to invest Two Thousand ($2,000.00) Dollars of the funds of the Grand Chapter in a good marketable security, in the name of "The Grand Treasurer of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, in trust for the said Grand Chapter."

*Resolved:*—that the M. E. Grand High Priest be and he is hereby authorized to draw his warrants on the Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing estimates as they may become due and payable.

The investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to twenty-seven thousand dollars ($27,000.00), are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Reading Co. Jersey Central Coll. Bonds, 4%, | $5,000 00 |
| Pennsylvania Co., Gold Loan, 4%, | 5,000 00 |
| Reading General Mortgage, 4%, | 5,000 00 |
| Electric and People's Traction, 4%, | 5,000 00 |
| Market St. Elevated Pass. Ry., 4%, | 2,000 00 |
| Philadelphia City Loan, 3%, | 3,500 00 |
| Philadelphia City Loan, 3½%, | 1,500 00 |
| | $27,000 00 |

Fraternally submitted,

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB M. JACKSON,
*Committee.*

It was on motion resolved that the Resolutions attached to the above Report be adopted.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was received, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, December 3, 1907.

*To The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapters Nos. 164, 204, 274 and 279, and the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 190, 196, 244 and 267, and offer the following Resolutions:

*Resolved:*—that the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 164 be referred back to said Chapter, as Article 5, Section 1, is uncertain as to its meaning.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 204 be not approved, not being in proper form.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 274 be approved.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 279 be not approved, as there is no provision made for a permanent fund.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 190 be referred back to said Chapter as uncertain of meaning.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 196, 244 and 267 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
JOSEPH M. WIATT,
JOHN E. POORE,
JOSEPH W. KENWORTHY,
*Committee.*

The Committee on Printing and Publishing presented the following Report:

PHILADELPHIA, December 5, 1907.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing begs leave to report that Messrs. MacCalla & Company Incorporated, to whom was awarded the contract for printing the Proceedings for 1906, completed its contract to the full satisfaction of the Committee.

The expenditure of $845.41 for printing, postage and stationery for the year includes the cost of printing and binding the Proceedings and their distribution.

Fraternally submitted,

LOUIS M. WAGNER,
JAMES W. R. WASHINGTON,
ALEXANDER MCCUNE,
FRANK E. TOWNSEND,
ROBERT F. MUSTIN, JR.,
*Committee.*

The Amendment to the Constitution in Article XIV, Section 6, was then considered and adopted.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, in a most touching tribute, referred to the loss sustained by Grand Chapter in the death of its late Treasurer, Companion THOMAS RANKEN PATTON, and that a more formal and enduring record of his worth and services may be preserved in the published Proceedings he requested Past Grand High Priest, Companion J. HENRY WILLIAMS, to read an In Memoriam during the course of the evening.

The M. E. Grand High Priest further testified to the loss occasioned by the death of Companion CHARLES W. PACKER, one of the Committee on Finance, and whose death was so feelingly noted on the minutes of that Committee.

Companion J. HENRY WILLIAMS, P.G.H.P., then presented a fraternal, able and worthy In Memoriam of Companion THOMAS RANKEN PATTON, which was listened to with close attention by all the Companions present.

IN MEMORIAM

## THOMAS RANKEN PATTON,

*Most Excellent Grand Treasurer.*

Some men go through life with all the pomp of worldly show; with a selfishness akin to brute force, ruthlessly trampling upon every sense of decency and honor to gain their own ends and purpose. Others with modesty, gentleness, a pure unselfishness, which, while apparently not as successful from a worldly standpoint, yet insensibly make in human hearts and upon the tablets of time an indelible impress that, surviving the vanities and vexations of this world, live through eternity. Of the latter class we readily recognize the character of M. E. Companion THOMAS RANKEN PATTON, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

He was born on Christmas Eve, 1824, at Crindle, in the County of Londonderry, Ireland. Coming to this country in 1844, he settled in Philadelphia and, engaging in active commercial pursuits, retired with a competency, and gave his remaining years to the practice of Masonic virtues.

His Masonic record is as follows:

*Lodge No.* 121.

| | |
|---|---|
| Entered Apprentice, | June 13, 1861. |
| Fellow Craft, | November 14, 1861. |
| Master Mason, | December 12, 1861. |
| Junior Warden, | December 9, 1864. |
| Senior Warden, | December 14, 1865. |
| Worshipful Master, | December 13, 1866. |

*Excelsior Mark Lodge, No.* 216.

| | |
|---|---|
| Mark Master Mason, | March 18, 1862. |
| Junior Inspector, | January 20, 1863. |
| Trustee, | December 20, 1864. |
| Junior Warden, | December 18, 1866. |
| Senior Warden, | December 17, 1867. |

Worshipful Master, . . . . . December 15, 1868.
Treasurer, . . . . . 1870 to 1892.

*Oriental Royal Arch Chapter, No.* 183.
Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, September 4, 1862.
Scribe, . . . . . 1869.
King, . . . . . 1870.
High Priest, . . . . . 1871.

*Philadelphia Council, No.* 11, *R. & S. M.*
Royal and Select Master, . . . . February 11, 1863.
Super Excellent Master, . . . . February 13, 1865.
Treasurer, . . . . . 1873–1874.
Principal Conductor of Work, . . . December 9, 1874.
Deputy Illustrious Grand Master, . . December 9, 1875.
Thrice Illustrious Grand Master, . . December 13, 1876.
Treasurer, . . . . . 1889–1903.

*St. John's Commandery, No.* 4, *K. T.*
Approved, . . . . . October 24, 1862.
Red Cross, . . . . . October 24, 1862.
Knight Templar, . . . . . October 24, 1862.
Knight of Malta, . . . . . October 24, 1862.
Junior Warden, . . . . . 1863–1864.
Resigned, . . . . . October 25, 1867.

*Kadosh Commandery, No.* 29, *K. T.*
Charter Member, . . . . . November 25, 1867.
Captain General, . . . . . 1882–1883.
Generalissimo, . . . . . 1883–1884.
Eminent Commander, . . . . 1884–1885.

*A. & A. Scottish Rite.*
Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection, 4° to 14°, . April 3 and 4, 1866.
De Joinville Council, Princes of Jerusalem, 15° and 16°, . . . . . April 5, 1866.
Kilwinning Chapter of Rose Croix de H. R. O. D. M., 17° and 18°, . . . April 6, 1866.
Philadelphia Consistory, 19° to 32°, . . April 6 and 7, 1866.
Treasurer of all Four Bodies, . . . 1866–1875.

*Supreme Council Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.*
33d Degree, . . . . . December 5, 1871.

*Art Association.*
A Member and one of the Managers from . October 22, 1887.

*Masonic Veterans of Pennsylvania*, from . . December 1, 1882.
Representative of the United Veterans' Association of Great Britain.

*Grand Lodge.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Grand Treasurer . . . . . | December 27, 1873. |
| until the day of his death . . . | September 13, 1907. |

*Grand Chapter.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies, . . | 1872–1873. |
| Grand Treasurer, . . . . . | 1874–1907. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Nebraska, | 1882. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Canada, . | 1884–1907. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Scotland, | 1890–1907. |

This record gives abundant proof of his love for all branches of Masonry, and shows conclusively his interest therein.

He was in his day noted for his ritualistic attainments, for his untiring labor and for his deep and lasting attachment to the ancient Landmarks as they came to us from the fathers undefiled by innovations and so-called modern improvements.

But his memory will be best known and revered for his charities. "He is truly great that is great in charity," says Thomas à Kempis.

So that in the accomplishment of his design to establish and perpetuate charities so noble and so useful he has proven himself "truly great."

On December 27, 1889, he gave the sum of $25,000 as a Charity Fund in memory of his wife, Ellen H. Graham Patton; the income whereof was to be expended for the relief of widows of Masons as therein provided. December 27, 1890, he increased this fund by an additional sum of $25,000, and on September 3, 1902, he added enough to make, with its accumulations, the sum of $100,000. This trust was duly accepted and is known as The Thomas R. Patton Memorial Charity Fund.

His other great charity defined in his will, and for which the great bulk of his estate has been placed in trust, is too

well known and of too recent establishment to need repetition here.

M. E. Companion PATTON's acquirement of wealth was not for the gratification of his own personal wants or pleasures, but that he might establish a fund that would relieve the wants and necessities of the destitute.

This purpose of his was not the result of the advice or persuasion of zealous friends, nor was it due to the connivance of stronger minds than his. It was not a hasty act, nor one influenced by those who, however much they might desire to shine by reflected light, were not worthy of so great an honor.

His magnificent offering to humanity was purely and simply the offspring, the outpouring of the heart of a noble man who had been chastened by the hand of affliction—the natural impulse of a soul which, by its own experience, could feel for others not so fortunate or blest.

His purpose was almost lifelong in its thought and conception. It was *his* purpose, and *his alone*. So that wherever the Fraternity of Free Masons is known, there will be inseparably associated with it the name of THOMAS RANKEN PATTON.

The memory of his unselfishness will be with us as a sweet savor from the altar of sacrifice, permeate the very innermost recesses of our hearts, and rise to the realms of the Great Architect of the Universe as an acceptable offering in his sight.

He entered into rest on the 13th day of September, 1907. I do not say died; for

> "To live in the hearts we leave behind
> Is not to die."

I would rather speak of him as one who, having passed

through the dark valley, now basks in the sunshine of everlasting joy, peace and happiness.

This being the time fixed by the Constitution for the election of Grand Officers to serve for the ensuing Masonic year, beginning on St. John the Evangelist's Day next, the M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to appoint Tellers who, having reported, the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following named Companions duly elected:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Companion | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, . | *M. E. Grand High Priest.* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, . . | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, . | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . | *M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |
| " | CHARLES CARY, . . . | *M. E. Grand Secretary.* |

A Petition was presented from a number of Royal Arch Masons for a Warrant for a new Chapter to be held in Philadelphia, Pa., to be called Thomas R. Patton Chapter.

A motion was duly made and seconded that the Petition be referred to the Grand Officers with power to act, which motion was laid on the table.

Companion J. WAELDER MCMULLEN moved that the Petition be not granted, which, being duly seconded, was adopted, after an Amendment to postpone the consideration of the question until the Quarterly Communication in March had been lost.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows:

M. E. Companion JOSEPH A. BOND, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Delaware. Died May 23, 1907.

M. E. Companion ELI TUCKER BLACKMER, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California. Died July 16, 1907.

M. E. Companion DAVID C. AVERY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland. Died September 18, 1907.

M. E. Companion MILTON HILLS MYRICK, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California. Died September 18, 1907.

M. E. Companion BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TUTTLE, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California. Died October 9, 1907.

M. E. Companion CHRISTIAN FETTA, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana. Died October 1, 1907.

The following certificate was read :

*To The M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging.*

M. E. SIR AND COMPANION:—At a stated meeting of St. John R. A. Chapter, No. 232, held December 3, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437, the following was among its transactions:

"This being the time fixed by the Constitution of Grand Chapter for the Election of Officers, the M. E. High Priest appointed the following as Tellers of the Election. . . . . .

"The Chapter proceeded to a ballot, when the vote being counted, it appeared that the following Companions were duly elected:

"Companion Walter T. Taggart, M. E. High Priest.
". . . . . ."
Extract from the Minutes.

WILLIAM F. TRACY,
*Secretary Chapter No. 232.*

PHILADELPHIA, December 4, 1907.
[SEAL.]

All the Companions present who had not received the Order of High Priesthood having retired, Companion WALTER T. TAGGART was duly installed as High Priest of St. John Royal Arch Chapter, No. 232, and had the Order of High Priesthood conferred upon him by Companion DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, at the request of the M. E. Grand High Priest.

The Companions who had retired were readmitted.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at six o'clock P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary.*

# ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION.

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

ST. JOHN'S DAY,

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comp. | WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, | *M. E. Grand High Priest.* |
| " | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | EDWARD B. SPENCER, | *M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |
| " | STOCKTON BATES, | *acting M. E. Grand Secretary.* |
| " | REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. HORACE F. FULLER, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | REV. CHARLES H. BOND, | *Grand Chaplain.* |
| " | DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, | *Grand Captain of the Host.* |
| " | THOMAS J. PARMLEY, | as *Grand Principal Sojourner.* |
| " | CLARENCE EASTWICK, | as *Grand Royal Arch Captain.* |
| " | PORTER W. LOWRY, | *Grand Master of the Third Vail.* |
| " | S. E. BURKE KINSLOE, | *Grand Master of the Second Vail.* |
| " | FRANK W. MARTENIS, | *Grand Master of the First Vail.* |
| " | GEORGE B. WELLS, | *Grand Marshal.* |
| " | G. ELLWOOD WAGNER, | *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | HOWARD BROWN, | as *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.* |
| " | AUGUST B. KUNZIG, | *Grand Pursuivant.* |
| " | WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, | *Grand Tyler.* |

*District Deputy Grand High Priests:*—Companions HENRY A. JENKS, ALLEN S. HECKMAN, THOMAS J. PARMLEY, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, GEORGE W. VERNES.

*Past Grand High Priests:*—Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, EDWARD B. SPENCER, J. HENRY WILLIAMS.

*Grand Representatives.*

Comp. DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
" GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
" EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
" ALEXANDER MCCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
" MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, of Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.
" WILLIAM L. GORGAS, of Grand Chapter of Minnesota.
" GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
" CHARLES F. WIGNALL, of Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.
" EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
" STOCKTON BATES, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
" HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
" LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.

Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 163, 169, 171, 173, 175, 183, 190, 193, 197, 198, 201, 202, 208, 214, 216, 226, 232, 233, 234, 240, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 252, 256, 258, 267, 271, 278. (34 Chapters.) (74 members.) (5 visitors.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 5, 1907, were read and approved.

Copies of proposed new Codes of By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 193 and 279 and proposed Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 190 and 230 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was received, and the accompanying Resolutions were on motion adopted:

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on By-Laws has examined the proposed new Code of By-Laws for Chapters Nos. 193 and 279 and Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 190 and 230, and offer the following Resolutions:

*Resolved:*—that the new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 193 be approved, and that the new Code of By-Laws for Chapter No. 279 be approved after the insertion of the word "not" in fifth line of Article III, Section 1.

*Resolved:*—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 190 and 230 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
JOHN E. POORE,
JOSEPH W. KENWORTHY,
*Committee.*

General Returns were received from Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 152, 159, 161, 165, 167, 169, 172, 176, 183, 189, 190, 193, 195, 197, 198, 199, 200, 202, 207, 209, 211, 215, 219, 220, 221, 226, 232, 235, 237, 239, 240, 245, 247, 248, 250, 251, 254, 256, 257, 258, 262, 264, 270, 271, 274, 277, 278, 279, 281, 282, 283, 284, 286 (fifty-six Chapters), which were ordered to be entered and filed.

So much of the Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 5, 1907, as refers to the election of Grand Officers was read.

All of the Companions present who had not received the Order of High Priesthood having retired, Companion WILLIAM B. MEREDITH was installed *Most Excellent Grand High Priest of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction*

*Thereunto Belonging*, was duly proclaimed as such, and received the salutations of the Craft.

The Companions who had retired were readmitted, when the following Grand Officers were severally installed, and were duly proclaimed and received the salutations of the Craft:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Companion | CARL A. SUNDSTROM, . . | *M. E. Grand King.* |
| " | A. G. CRISWELL SMITH, . | *M. E. Grand Scribe.* |
| " | EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . | *M. E. Grand Treasurer.* |

The M. E. Grand High Priest then presented the following address:

COMPANIONS:—In assuming this exalted station one year ago to-day, it was with a firm determination to comply with every requirement of the Constitution and to adhere strictly to the ancient customs, usages and landmarks of Free Masonry. It has been my earnest endeavor to carry out this determination, and what has been done during the year for Capitular Masonry, my Companions, is now part of the history of this Grand Chapter. It is too late to amend or correct, even if such was my desire, and in the performance of a duty, I will recount the doings of the year. Prosperity has marked the year; our dealings with our sister jurisdictions have been all that could be desired; our associations with our Companions have been of the most pleasant character; our meetings have been well attended, and peace and harmony reigns in our midst. Truly a kind Providence has watched over us with tender care, and to that Supreme Being let us humbly and devoutly render thanks for His guidance and direction during the year. But the silvery clouds have been tinged with dark shadows;

the dread messenger Death has entered our midst and taken from among us two Companions who have occupied prominent positions in Capitular Masonry and in this Grand Chapter. On Friday, September 13, at four P.M., at his home in this city, M. E. Companion Thomas Ranken Patton, Grand Treasurer, entered into rest, and was buried with Masonic honors on Monday, the 16th. The following letter was issued:

OCTOBER 24, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

*To the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction, and to all Royal Arch Masons wherever dispersed.*

COMPANIONS:—Most Excellent Companion THOMAS RANKEN PATTON, Grand Treasurer, entered into rest on Friday, September 13, 1907, at four o'clock P.M.

In his death this city has lost a loyal and patriotic citizen, his Church a faithful and devoted member, and Masonry one of its most ardent supporters and a firm believer in its principles and teachings. His death will be more keenly felt in Masonry than elsewhere; in fact, the loss is almost irreparable.

Most Excellent Companion Thomas Ranken Patton was born December 24, 1824, at Crindle, County Londonderry, Ireland. He came to this country in June, 1844, landing at Philadelphia, Pa., since which time he made this city his home, and gave the best years of his life to an active and strenuous business career. Acquiring a competency, he retired from business and gave the remaining years of his life to Masonry.

He was elected Grand Treasurer of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at the Quarterly Communication held December 3, 1873, and Grand Treasurer of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania at the Quarterly Communication held November 7, 1873, and was installed as such in both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter on December 27, 1873; since which time he has been annually re-elected and served until the day of his death. His active and faithful service to the several Masonic bodies of which he was a member endeared him to all who knew him.

His deep and devoted attachment to Free Masonry, his desire to benefit humanity and contribute more especially to the poor and unfortunate in Free Masonry, prompted him to inaugurate a great charity which will live as long as Free Masonry exists, and will cause the name of

Companion THOMAS RANKEN PATTON to be remembered and revered by every Mason in our jurisdiction.

On December 27, 1889, he gave his check for Twenty-five thousand dollars, thus forming the nucleus of what is now known as "The Thomas R. Patton Memorial Charity Fund." On December 27, 1890, he increased this fund by an additional Twenty-five thousand dollars; and again, on September 3, 1902, by the sum of Forty-two thousand six hundred and twenty-four dollars and forty-eight cents, which, together with the amounts previously given and the interest accumulated thereon, made the magnificent sum of One hundred thousand dollars.

MASONIC RECORD OF M. E. COMPANION THOMAS RANKEN PATTON.
BORN DECEMBER 24, 1824.

*Lodge No.* 121.

| | |
|---|---|
| Entered Apprentice, | June 13, 1861. |
| Fellow Craft, | November 14, 1861. |
| Mastor Mason, | December 12, 1861. |
| Junior Warden, | December 9, 1864. |
| Senior Warden, | December 14, 1865. |
| Worshipful Master, | December 13, 1866. |

*Excelsior Mark Lodge, No.* 216.

| | |
|---|---|
| Mark Master Mason, | March 18, 1862. |
| Junior Inspector, | January 20, 1863. |
| Trustee, | December 20, 1864. |
| Junior Warden, | December 18, 1866. |
| Senior Warden, | December 17, 1867. |
| Worshipful Master, | December 15, 1868. |
| Treasurer, | 1870 to 1892. |

*Oriental Royal Arch Chapter, No.* 183.

| | |
|---|---|
| Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, | September 4, 1862. |
| Scribe, | 1869. |
| King, | 1870. |
| High Priest, | 1871. |

*Philadelphia Council, No.* 11, *R. & S. M.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Royal and Select Master, | February 11, 1863. |
| Super Excellent Master, | February 13, 1865. |
| Treasurer, | 1873–1874. |
| Principal Conductor of Work, | December 9, 1874. |
| Deputy Illustrious Grand Master, | December 9, 1875. |
| Thrice Illustrious Grand Master, | December 13, 1876. |
| Treasurer, | 1889–1903. |

*St. John's Commandery, No. 4, K. T.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Approved, | October 24, 1862. |
| Red Cross, | October 24, 1862. |
| Knight Templar, | October 24, 1862. |
| Knight of Malta, | October 24, 1862. |
| Junior Warden, | 1863–1864. |
| Resigned, | October 25, 1867. |

*Kadosh Commandery, No. 29, K. T.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Charter Member, | November 25, 1867. |
| Captain General, | 1882–1883. |
| Generalissimo, | 1883–1884. |
| Eminent Commander, | 1884–1885. |

*A. & A. Scottish Rite.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection, 4° to 14°, | April 3 and 4, 1866. |
| De Joinville Council, Princes of Jerusalem, 15° and 16°, | April 5, 1866. |
| Kilwinning Chapter of Rose Croix de H. R. O. D. M., 17° and 18°, | April 6, 1866. |
| Philadelphia Consistory, 19° to 32°, | April 6 and 7, 1866. |
| Treasurer of all Four Bodies, | 1866–1875. |

*Supreme Council Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 33°, | December 5, 1871. |

*Art Association.*

| | |
|---|---|
| A Member and one of the Managers from | October 22, 1887. |

*Masonic Veterans of Pennsylvania*, from December 1, 1882.

Representative of the United Veterans' Association of Great Britain.

*Grand Lodge.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Grand Treasurer | December 27, 1873 |
| until the day of his death, | September 13, 1907. |

*Grand Chapter.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies, | 1872–1873. |
| Grand Treasurer, | 1874–1907. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Nebraska, | 1882. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Canada, | 1884–1907. |
| Representative—Grand Chapter of Scotland, | 1890–1907. |

DIED SEPTEMBER 13, 1907.

It is directed that in memory of our departed Most Excellent Companion this communication be read in each Subordinate Chapter within our Jurisdiction, and entered in full on the Minutes at the next Stated Meeting after its receipt, and that the Jewels of such Chapters be draped in mourning for the space of six months.

Given under the seal of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the day and year above written.

WILLIAM B. MEREDITH,
*Grand High Priest.*

[SEAL.]
*Official:*
CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary.*

At the Quarterly Communication in December, Most Excellent Companion J. Henry Williams, Past Grand High Priest, read an appropriate "In Memoriam," which portrayed in beautiful, touching and tender language the life and services of our distinguished and beloved Companion.

He has gone from us; that frail tenement of clay so recently with us is mingling with its kindred dust; but the name and acts of M. E. Companion Thomas Ranken Patton will never die; as long as Masonry exists in this jurisdiction his name will be remembered and cherished by his Brethren and Companions.

Companion Charles Westley Packer was born on September 4, 1828, and spent the greater portion of his life in the City of Philadelphia, where he was for many years actively engaged in business. He was made a Mason in Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, February 19, 1863; served as Junior Warden in 1868, Senior Warden 1869 and Worshipful Master in 1870. Received the degree of Mark Master Mason in Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 216, on September 23, 1867, and the degrees of Most Excellent Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason in Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, No. 3, on September 23, 1867; a member of the Grand Chapter by virtue of having been a Royal Arch Mason and Worshipful Master of his Lodge prior to December 28, 1871; a member of the Committee on Centennial Celebration of the Grand Chapter, 1895;

a member of the Committee on Finance as follows: 1876 to 1889, 1892 to 1897 and 1899 to September 30, 1907, the date of his death. In his death this Grand Chapter has sustained a severe loss, as he was a useful and upright citizen, a loyal and devoted Mason, untiring in the performance of every duty assigned him, and zealous in guarding the interests of this Grand Chapter as a member of the Committee on Finance.

Following the custom of many of my predecessors, on December 27, 1906, a Circular Letter was issued to the District Deputy Grand High Priests, the Chapters and Mark Lodges of the County of Philadelphia, as follows:

CIRCULAR LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SEVERAL DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS IN THE JURISDICTION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

OFFICE OF THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA,
St. John's Day, December 27, A.D. 1906, A.I. 2436.

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION:—This Circular Letter of Instructions contains the Regulations which you are expected to observe in the performance of your official duties.

1. You will, as early as possible, visit the Chapters in your district, and deliver to each a copy of this Circular Letter, with directions to have the same read in open Chapter and preserved in a convenient place for reference. You will once during the year examine the minutes of each Chapter and make a written report in its Minute Book, correcting any errors you may discover in the matter thereof or in the manner of recording the same, and instruct the M. E. High Priest to have your report read at the next meeting of this Chapter, and the fact that it has been so read noted on the minutes of that meeting.

2. On your visit to a Chapter, carefully inspect the Chapter Hall, see that it is suited to its purpose, and that it can be securely tyled (if not, report the same at once to this office), and have some portion of the Work rehearsed in your presence, so that you may correct it if it be not the authorized Work or is imperfectly rendered.

3. You will see that every Chapter in your District has in its possession *four* copies of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania of the edition of 1897, and *four* copies of the Holy Bible. You will urge

on the officers of the Chapters in your District the necessity of carefully studying the Constitution, in order to make themselves acquainted with its various provisions, a thorough knowledge of which will greatly assist them in conducting the affairs of their Chapters.

4. Notify all officers and members of the Chapters in your District that they will, in the first instance, address you on all questions of Work and Law, and for all information relating thereto which they may seek. Your opinions, decisions and correspondence you will cause to be preserved as part of the official record of your administration. Through you all appeals to this office must be made, and with every appeal you will send copies of your decisions to which said appeal refers, and of the correspondence relating thereto. All correspondence relative to your official duties must be addressed to the M. E. Grand High Priest.

5. You will instruct the Officers in their Work, and see that they are fully qualified for their duties in this respect, and inform the Officers that the authorized Work must be used in every instance. In the absence of the High Priest, the Warrant must be placed in possession of the King, and in the absence of both the High Priest and King, it must be placed in possession of the Scribe. If all are absent, no Chapter can be opened except by the M. E. Grand High Priest or some one specially authorized by him for that purpose.

6. You will not permit any one to instruct or teach the Work in your District unless he has a dispensation therefor, under the seal of the M. E. Grand High Priest, or to deliver a lecture before a Chapter upon any subject, without having first obtained permission from the same authority.

7. High Priests are to be reminded that it is their duty to enforce the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, as well as the By-Laws of their respective Chapters; and especially to see that no ballot on a petition is taken until after the Secretary has made the *necessary inquiry* of the M. E. Grand Secretary, *and his reply has been received*, stating that there is nothing on the records against the applicant. Should a Chapter act on an application for Degrees and Membership, or for Membership only, before receiving a reply from the Grand Secretary, the name of such applicant will be stricken from the roll.

8. You will call the attention of Chapters to the fact that Officers are installed only for the Masonic year ending on St. John's Day, and that in case of re-election they must be installed as before. This is to be called to their attention, particularly in the case of the Treasurer and Secretary, who are most frequently re-elected.

9. You will render obedience to that clause of the Constitution, page 17, which makes it imperative upon you to attend the Quarterly Communications of the Grand Chapter at least twice a year.

AMONG THE DECISIONS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE, SPECIAL ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE FOLLOWING:

The official title of a Chapter is "———— Royal Arch Chapter, No. ——," and *not* "———— Chapter, No. ——, Royal Arch Masons."

A meeting called for the purpose of installing Officers or for conferring Degrees is an "Extra Meeting." A meeting called to consider special matters of business (such as changing place of meeting or electing a representative to fill a vacancy) is a "Special Meeting."

A Stated Meeting cannot be opened prior to the *hour fixed by the By-Laws.*

The full fee for all Degrees petitioned for must be paid before any Degree is conferred.

The High Priest is responsible to the Grand Chapter for the manner in which he conducts the business of the Chapter and the manner in which the Degrees are conferred. The Work must be in accordance with that authorized by the Grand Chapter.

The use of Monitors, printed or written Lectures or Rituals in conferring the Degrees is prohibited.

The use of *Postal Cards* in sending Chapter notices is not permitted.

The names of applicants for Degrees and Membership, or for Membership only, must be printed or written in the body of the notice proper, and not on a separate slip.

The names of all petitioners must appear on the notice for the meeting at which they are to be balloted for. If action is postponed in any case, the name, age, occupation and residence of the petitoner must appear on the notice for every stated meeting until the petition is disposed of.

A *summons* is not necessary for suspension for non-payment of dues unless the By-Laws so require.

A summons issued to the members of a Chapter must be *signed* by the High Priest and Secretary and have the seal of the Chapter attached.

A Chapter cannot act on petitions not *presented* and *read* at a *stated meeting* at least *four weeks* prior to a ballot.

A petition cannot be withdrawn after a favorable report *and* ballot. A second or subsequent petition cannot be withdrawn *in any case.*

*A second ballot* cannot be taken on a second or subsequent petition.

*A second ballot* cannot be taken on a petition for Membership, but a new petition may be presented at any time.

A Chapter must ballot for all its Officers at the same time, but separate boxes must be used for each office, except for Treasurer and Secretary, who may be voted for on the same ticket.

The M. E. High Priest must be installed on or before the St. John's Day next succeeding his election, and serve a full Masonic year as such to retain membership in the Grand Chapter. The High Priest must be

invested with the order of High Priesthood at the time of installation into office.

Members and visitors must send in cards, giving their names in full, together with the name and number of the Chapter and the jurisdiction to which they belong. The names of all Companions present must be written in the minutes and not by reference to a register.

The High Priest of a Chapter has the undoubted right to refuse admission to a visitor at his discretion. He should so refuse if a member objects in open Chapter. A Companion desiring to visit has no right to *demand* admission against the objection of a member.

A Chapter *cannot remit the dues* of a member who has been suspended for non-payment thereof, and then restore him to Membership or Good Masonic Standing. He can be so restored only upon *payment* of all arrears of dues.

A Chapter should not restore a Companion suspended for non-payment of dues to Good Masonic Standing, and subsequently restore him to Membership under the provision of Article XVIII, Section 4. Restoration to Membership *includes* Good Masonic Standing, and one restored to "Good Masonic Standing" can be subsequently admitted to "Membership" only upon petition and ballot.

A resignation of a Companion from Membership in a Chapter must be accepted, providing his dues are paid, and no charges are pending against him at the time.

*No Certificates* other than those authorized by Article XI. of the Constitution shall be issued by any Chapter.

It is not necessary for an inquiry from another Chapter as to "Masonic Objection" to *lie over* from one meeting to another. *The notice* for the meeting when such inquiry is to be acted on must, however, contain the required statement to the members that a ballot will be taken on such inquiry.

*Jurisdiction* in Pennsylvania belongs to the Grand Chapter alone, and not in any sense to a subordinate Chapter. An applicant for the degrees and membership may apply to any Chapter he desires to enter, without regard to where he resides, and the whole purpose of the inquiry is to determine and have answered, in the neighborhood in which he is presumed to be best known, one question, and but one, viz.: *Is he fit for advancement*, mentally, morally and physically? If he is not, the Chapter to which his petition is addressed should not be allowed to proceed. If he is, the Chapter inquired of has *no right* to say otherwise, however reluctant its members may be to see applicants who might be expected to knock at its doors go elsewhere. The assertion of "Masonic Objection" where none really exists is clearly subversive of the rights of other Chapters

and when it is wilfully made cannot be too severely censured. ("Five Black Balls shall establish the existence of such objection.")

When a Chapter acts on an inquiry from another Chapter as to 'Masonic Objection," the result of such action *must be certified immediately to the inquiring Chapter and to the Grand Secretary.*

*Distance from the residence* of a petitioner to the nearest Chapter must be measured on a *straight line*, without regard to roads or communication.

Secretaries of Chapters are positively instructed to send "Monthly Returns" to the M. E. Grand Secretary *within one week* from the time of holding a stated meeting, in order to receive a reply previous to the meeting following. All *proper names* must be plainly and carefully written.

All Deaths, Resignations, Suspensions, Restorations and Rejections must be reported promptly to the Grand Secretary; considerable annoyance having been caused by failure to observe this rule.

Secretaries of Chapters will send copy of notices for all Stated, Special and Extra Meetings to the M. E. Grand High Priest, the Grand Secretary, and the District Deputy Grand High Priest.

A Candidate's Mark must be literally *recorded in the Book of Marks* before he can be exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason.

THE FOLLOWING RULES HAVE BEEN FORMULATED AND WILL BE OBSERVED IN THE RECORDING OF MARKS:

I. The Mark is to be drawn (not pasted) within the circle and letters in the keystone.

II. The date when the Brother received the Mark Degree is to be stated in its proper place.

III. A description of the Mark should be given in every instance, as it frequently occurs that the Mark is unintelligible without it.

IV. The first (or middle) name must be written in full, not initials.

V. Ink is to be used in all cases, and not lead pencil.

VI. Book should be indexed for convenience of reference.

You will understand that your judgment and discretion are relied upon to carry out these regulations.

Fraternally yours,

WILLIAM B. MEREDITH,
*Grand High Priest.*

[SEAL.]

## GRAND TREASURER.

Upon the death of M. E. Companion Thomas Ranken Patton, Grand Treasurer, the vacancy was filled, in accordance with Section 6, Article V of the Constitution (which

makes it mandatory upon the M. E. Grand High Priest to appoint a successor), by the appointment, on September 25, of Most Excellent Companion Edward B. Spencer, Past Grand High Priest, to fill the vacancy until the next annual election, at which election the M. E. Companion thus appointed was unanimously elected to fill the exalted station.

## Decisions.

Decisions upon the provisions of the Constitution, the work and business of the subordinate Chapters are necessary. These, however, have been so fully covered by my predecessors that it is rare that a new question is presented. During the year many questions were submitted to me which were answered by simply referring to the section of the Constitution or the page and year of the Annual Proceedings where the information desired could be obtained.

Several decisions are deemed of sufficient importance to have a place in the Annual Proceedings.

That the M. E. High Priest of a Chapter has no authority to appoint a Committee to provide a banquet at the expense of the Chapter, without the same being directed by a vote of the Chapter, reaffirming a decision made in 1872. (See Proceedings of that year, page 137.)

That a Chapter has the power and authority to donate money to the Secretary for services, in excess of the salary named in the By-Laws, although the wiser plan would be to amend the By-Laws and make the salary large enough to cover all purposes.

The name of a Chapter cannot be used in connection with any social club or association, including a reception and banquet at which others than Masons are present. That a public banquet given in the name of a Chapter, at which

others than Masons were present, followed by a "Vaudeville and Dance," was unmasonic.

"Vaudeville" and the "Dance" have no place in Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction and are prohibited.

The following questions were submitted:

Can money subscribed and paid to assist in the formation of a new Chapter (such money being used exclusively for Masonic purposes) be credited on dues or life membership fees?

The reply was: It cannot. A Chapter must be constituted free of debt; hence all subscriptions must be treated as gifts or voluntary contributions.

Can a Companion who is not able to open or close a Royal Arch Chapter be elected and installed M. E. High Priest of a Chapter?

A Chapter can elect any Companion M. E. High Priest who has served as either King or Scribe, but ordinary respect for Capitular Masonry would require the Companion to have not only sufficient knowledge to open and close a R. A. Chapter, but also to do the work required of a M. E. High Priest.

As to installation. In Symbolic Masonry one of the requirements is, that the Chair is not to be given to any one not qualified to do the work, etc. What is true in Symbolic Masonry is equally true in Capitular Masonry. A knowledge of the Capitular degrees has ever been a requirement of a M. E. High Priest, and at least in one instance a Most Excellent Grand High Priest refused to constitute a Chapter until the officers were able to do the work. Again, in constituting a new Chapter the M. E. Grand King, in presenting the M. E. High Priest for installation, says, "I find him to be skillful in the Royal Art, etc." This applies with equal force to the installation of a M. E. High Priest (see

note, bottom of page 86, of the Constitution). In the establishment of a subordinate Chapter one of the purposes is that those who apply for the Capitular degrees and are approved may be taught the Royal Art of Capitular Masonry. How can it be taught if those in authority do not themselves know the work which is to be taught? It seems to me that the moment those who have the warrant cease to be able to do the work, govern the body and confer the degrees, the warrant should become inoperative and revert to the Grand Chapter; hence a Companion who cannot do the work of the Chapter cannot be installed as M. E. High Priest. Opening and closing are part of the work of the Most Excellent High Priest.

## Dispensations.

During the year I have granted the following Dispensations:

February 21. To Pottstown Royal Arch Chapter, No. 271, to elect a Secretary to fill a vancacy caused by death.

April 2. To Lackawanna Royal Arch Chapter, No. 185, to elect a Secretary to fill a vacancy caused by death.

May 10. To Portage Royal Arch Chapter, No. 195, to suspend labor during the months of May, June, July and August, their hall having been destroyed by fire.

June 17. To Reading Royal Arch Chapter, No. 152, to elect a Treasurer to fill a vacancy caused by death.

Declined to grant the following Dispensations:

To confer all of the Capitular degrees at one meeting.

To confer the Royal Arch degree in less than four weeks, the constitutional time.

## Grand Visitations.

During the year I have made the following Grand Visitations, in all of which I was accompanied by the Most Excellent Grand King, Most Excellent Grand Scribe, Most Excellent Grand Secretary (as long as health would permit) and a number of the appointed officers. In a number of the Grand Visitations M. E. Companion J. Henry Williams, Past Grand High Priest, and on one occasion M. E. Companion H. Oscar Kline, Past Grand High Priest, accompanied the Grand Officers.

December 28, 1906. Signet Royal Arch Chapter, No. 251, Philadelphia. The Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred.

May 13, 1907. Occidental Royal Arch Chapter, No. 235, Warren. Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

May 14. Solomon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 191, Meadville. Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

May 15. Orient Royal Arch Chapter, No. 249, Kittanning. Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred.

May 16. Union Royal Arch Chapter, No. 165, Uniontown. Most Excellent Master Mason's degree was conferred.

May 17. Bellevue Royal Arch Chapter, No. 286, Bellevue. Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

September 9. Melita Royal Arch Chapter, No. 284, Philadelphia. The fourth anniversary of constitution. Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred.

October 7. Howell Royal Arch Chapter, No. 199, York. Most Excellent Master Mason's degree was conferred.

October 8. Good Samaritan Royal Arch Chapter, No. 266, Gettysburg. Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

October 9. Northumberland Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, Sunbury. Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred, after which a portion of the degree was rehearsed by the Grand Chapter Officers.

October 10. Lily Royal Arch Chapter, No. 181, Mauch Chunk. The Mark Master Mason's degree was exemplified by the Grand Chapter Officers; S. E. Burke Kinsloe as Worshipful Master.

November 11. Zinzendorf Royal Arch Chapter, No. 216, Bethlehem. Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

## Informal Visitations.

January 15, 1907. Temple Royal Arch Chapter, No. 248, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

January 16. Columbia Royal Arch Chapter, No. 91, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

January 17. Oriental Royal Arch Chapter, No. 183, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

February 8. Zerubbabel Royal Arch Chapter, No. 162, Pittsburg. Sixtieth anniversary of constitution.

February 11. Columbia Mark Lodge, No. 91, Philadelphia.

February 11. Melita Royal Arch Chapter, No. 284, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

February 12. Girard Mark Lodge, No. 214, Philadelphia.

February 13. Philadelphia Royal Arch Chapter, No. 169, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

February 15. Pittsburg School of Instruction. Rehearsal of Most Excellent Master Mason's degree.

March 12. Clarion Royal Arch Chapter, Clarion, accompanied by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, and District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Cyrus H. Blood. The Royal Arch Mason's degree was conferred.

March 19. Butler Royal Arch Chapter, No. 273, Butler, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Cyrus H. Blood.

April 5. Bellefonte Royal Arch Chapter, No. 241, Bellefonte, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion George W. Vernes.

April 12. Allegheny Royal Arch Chapter, No. 217, Allegheny, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Winfield S. Bell.

April 15. Germantown Royal Arch Chapter, No. 208, Philadelphia. Royal Arch Mason's degree conferred.

April 16. Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 216.

April 16. University Royal Arch Chapter, No. 256, Philadelphia. Royal Arch Mason's degree conferred.

April 17. Siloam Royal Arch Chapter, No. 226, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

May 10. Palestine Royal Arch Chapter, No. 240, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

May 31. Eureka Royal Arch Chapter, No. 167, Rochester, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion John C. Wallace. Royal Arch Mason's degree conferred.

June 4. St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 232, Philadelphia. Royal Arch Mason's degree conferred.

June 7. Harmony Royal Arch Chapter, No. 52. Mark Master Mason's and Most Excellent Master Mason's degrees conferred.

June 14. Allegheny Royal Arch Chapter, No. 217, Allegheny, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Winfield S. Bell. Mark Master and Most Excellent Master Mason's degree conferred.

June 29. Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter, No. 262, Ardmore Twenty-fifth anniversary of constitution.

September 2. Corinthian Royal Arch Chapter, No. 250, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

September 3. Tristram B. Freeman Royal Arch Chapter, No. 243, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

September 23. Kensington Royal Arch Chapter, No. 233, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

September 26. Monongahela Royal Arch Chapter, No. 249, Monongahela. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

October 17. Urania Royal Arch Chapter, No. 192, Greensburg, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priests Companions William Nagel and Winfield S. Bell. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

October 21. Shiloh Royal Arch Chapter, No. 257, Pittsburg, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Winfield S. Bell. Royal Arch Mason's degree conferred.

October 28. Keystone Royal Arch Chapter, No. 175, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

November 18. Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, No. 3, Philadelphia. Mark Master Mason's degree conferred.

November 25. McKeesport Royal Arch Chapter, No. 282, McKeesport, accompanied by District Deputy Grand High Priests Companions William Nagel and Winfield S. Bell. Most Excellent Master Mason's degree conferred.

December 9. Orient Royal Arch Chapter, No. 247, Kittanning, installed the officers-elect for the ensuing Masonic year, beginning St. John's Day, December 27.

## Representatives to Other Grand Chapters.

I have appointed Companion Charles S. Gurney as Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of

Illinois, and commissioned him as such on September 3, 1907.

## Representatives Received.

Most Excellent Companion James S. Barber, Past Grand High Priest, has been reappointed and recognized as the Representative from the Grand Chapter of Delaware to this Grand Chapter.

## Notices of Meetings.

My attention was called to the lack of uniformity in the notices of Chapter meetings, most of the stated meetings being called by order of the M. E. High Priest, while in fact the By-Laws name the time of stated meetings, and the Constitution provides that the Secretary shall issue all notices of stated meetings (Section 9, Article XV, Constitution). Notices for extra and special meetings are issued by direction of the M. E. High Priest. A form of notice for stated, extra and special meetings was prepared under my direction by the M. E. Grand Secretary and copies have been sent to each Chapter in the jurisdiction. In the future all Chapter notices will be issued in accordance therewith.

## Waivers of Jurisdiction.

I have asked for and received three waivers of jurisdiction from the Grand High Priest of New Jersey.

I have granted waivers of jurisdiction as follows: New Jersey, 7; New York, 2; Indiana, 1; West Virginia, 1, and District of Columbia, 1.

I have declined to grant waivers of jurisdiction as follows:

Brother ————————, member of Lodge No. ——, of New York, not under the tongue of good Masonic report.

Brother ————————, member of Lodge No. ——, of New York, physically disqualified.

In cases of Brothers Charles Hanford Robertson, George Vogt, Jacob O. Ryder, Jacob M. DeWitt, members of Lodge No. 344, Pennsylvania, and Orville B. Zeigler, of Lodge No. 567, Pennsylvania, for the reason that they had not passed the chair.

## Work.

In accordance with custom, the Capitular degrees have been exemplified during the year as follows:

At the Quarterly Communication held March 7 the Mark Master Mason's degree was exemplified by the officers of Oriental Royal Arch Chapter, No. 183, Adolph Eichholz as Worshipful Master.

At the Quarterly Communication held June 6, the Most Excellent Master Mason's degree was exemplified by Companion John H. Fairlamb, Past High Priest of Media R. A. Chapter, No. 234, and a member of the Committee of "Instructors in Capitular Degrees," assisted by a selected corps of officers.

At the Quarterly Communication held September 5, the Royal Arch Mason's degree was exemplified by the officers of Palestine R. A. Chapter, No. 240, Companion George P. Tustin as Most Excellent High Priest.

At the Quarterly Communication held on December 5, the Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon Companion Walter T. Taggart, and he was regularly installed M. E. High Priest of St. John's R. A. Chapter, No. 232, by Past High Priest Companion Daniel W. Hutchin, Grand

Captain of the Host and Chairman of the Committee of "Instructors in Capitular Degrees."

The work at each Communication was under the immediate supervision of Past High Priest Companion Daniel W. Hutchin, Grand Captain of the Host and Chairman of the "Instructors in Capitular Degrees," and as exemplified and conferred in the Grand Chapter is the correct work of this jurisdiction and the only work that can be used.

The thanks of the Grand Chapter were tendered to the Companions who took part in the work of the several degrees, and I desire again to thank the officers for aiding in the establishment of uniform work in the jurisdiction.

On October 18, in company with District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Winfield S. Bell, visited the Pittsburg School of Instruction, at which time the Royal Arch Mason's degree was rehearsed by the officers of Zerubbabel R. A. Chapter, No. 162 (Companion Edward Hope as M. E. High Priest), in a masterly manner and with a correctness that was very gratifying.

In the Grand and informal Visitations throughout the jurisdiction, the work as done was in many instances correct, but to say to a majority of the Chapters that their work was correct, or to this Grand Chapter that the work throughout the jurisdiction was uniform, would be stating that which is not correct, and we may as well recognize the fact and inaugurate a system of instruction which will remedy the evil, as this Grand Chapter certainly owes it to the subordinate Chapters that they shall have the correct work. The "Instructors in Capitular Degrees" and the "District Deputy Grand High Priests" have labored earnestly and faithfully and have accomplished great good, and certainly are entitled to the gratitude of this Grand Chapter; but the true purpose will never be accomplished until an instructor

has been sent to each subordinate Chapter, requiring instruction, to give it the correct work.

## Amendments of the Constitution.

Very early in the year the following question was submitted to me: Where does the M. E. High Priest of a Chapter get the authority to appoint a "Guide or Guides"? Section 6, Article XIV of the Constitution, which names the elective and appointive officers of a subordinate Chapter, does not include the office of "Guide or Guides"; hence there was no authority for such appointment. In the working of the Capitular degrees a "Guide" is a necessity; hence at the Quarterly Communication in March an Amendment to Section 6, Article XIV of the Constitution was offered to make it read as follows:

"The Officers of a Chapter are Most Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Three Masters of the Vails, Senior Master of Ceremonies, Junior Master of Ceremonies, Guides, Pursuivant and Tyler, to which may be added Chaplains and Stewards."

The requirements of the Constitution having been complied with, the Amendment was adopted at the Quarterly Communication in December, and there is now authority to name a "Guide or Guides."

While I have doubts as to the propriety of the too frequent amending of the Constitution, it does seem to me that it should be further amended by striking out in Section 7, Article VII, under the head of "Grand Treasurer," the following: "He shall have custody of the securities of the Grand Chapter," and adding a new section to provide for the election at the Quarterly Communication in December or appointment by the M. E. Grand High Priest of a Board of Trustees, who shall have charge of the investments and

securities of the Grand Chapter. According to the report of the Committee on Finance at the Quarterly Communication in December, the Grand Chapter had investments amounting to $27,000.00, and the probabilities are that the investments will increase from year to year and should be controlled by a separate Committee, in manner similar to the provisions governing the Sinking Fund of the Grand Lodge, and I am confident the M. E. Grand Treasurer will heartily welcome such a change.

## Marks.

The subject of recording the Mark is one of the most annoying that devolves upon the M. E. Grand High Priest. It has been discussed by many of my predecessors and by some in a very forcible manner. All have urged a strict compliance with the bounden duty both of adopting and recording the Mark. To refresh the memories of the members, I quote from several of the Past Grand High Priests and from a Report of the Committee on Work and Jurisprudence:

June 3, 1886. The Committee on Work and Jurisprudence submitted the following:

"*Resolved*, That all Mark Master Masons be required to adopt and record their Marks with the Secretary of their Lodge or Chapter within four months from the date of receiving the Mark degree."

December 27, 1887. M. E. Companion Matthias H. Henderson, Grand High Priest:

"In the Mark degree it is different He there promises to do a certain thing, and to do it within a certain time. There is no qualification attached to it, and I fail to see how any promise can be more binding."

December 27, 1892. M. E. Companion Edgar A. Tennis, Grand High Priest:

"This violation of a Masonic obligation and omission of an ancient usage cannot longer be tolerated."

December 27, 1902. M. E. Companion Edward B. Spencer, Grand High Priest, quoting language of Past Grand High Priest Companion Henderson, adds:

"I recommend this Grand Chapter take action to carry out the suggestion of M. E. Companion Henderson."

December 3, 1903. Amendment to the Constitution adopted, by adding a new section (10) to Article XVI (see Proceedings, 1903, page 59) as follows:

"SEC. 10. No member shall be exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason within four weeks from the time he shall have received the honorary degree of Mark Master Mason, and not then unless he has had his Mark recorded in the Book of Marks."

December 27, 1904. M. E. Companion Henry Oscar Kline, Grand High Priest:

"I here and now decide that from and after this date Marks shall be literally recorded (copied) in a proper book provided for that purpose."

December 27, 1906. M. E. Companion J. Henry Williams, Grand High Priest:

"I have decided that it is the duty of the M. E. High Priest to know by personal examination of the Book of Marks that the law is complied with before he permits the exaltation; if he does not he violates his own obligation, with the necessary consequences."

To this I have added the following: The M. E. High Priest shall make personal examination of the Book of Marks and report the names of the Brethren whose Marks

are recorded to his Chapter, and only those so reported shall be exalted, and failure on the part of the M. E. High Priest to comply with this requirement will be reported to the Grand Chapter for action, and Brethren exalted without having complied with the provisions above named are liable to be edicted.

On assuming this station one year ago I used the following language:

"During the present Masonic year every endeavor will be made to have the few unrecorded Marks recorded; failing to do so, we will certainly recommend a remedy that will accomplish the purpose."

I have fully complied with the declaration therein contained and have labored earnestly and faithfully to have the members of the several Chapters comply with their bounden duty and record their Marks, and have written a very large number of letters on the subject, and have succeeded in materially reducing the number of unrecorded Marks; yet the success has not been as great as it should have been. At the outstart I felt confident that every Mark Master Mason would deem it a pleasure to fully complete his Masonic duty; but repeated urging has not produced the desired result, but instead excuse upon excuse, and in many instances of the most flimsy character, evidencing a disposition to evade an obligated duty, a duty so clearly and ably discussed by M. E. Companion Henry Oscar Kline, Grand High Priest, on December 27, 1904, that it is useless for me to follow it further, other than to refer to the Proceedings of 1904, page 66. Suffice it to say, that the obligated duty is so strong, the usage so general and the custom so ancient that it can with safety be termed a landmark, and there can be no escape from complying with its requirements.

It is my purpose to pursue this subject with renewed vigor until the Quarterly Communication in June, 1908, at which time I shall ask the Grand Chapter to take action.

I submit this thought: that if the M. E. High Priest and Secretary of every Chapter in the jurisdiction in which there are members who have not recorded their Marks will give from now until June, 1908, the same active and intelligent attention to having the Marks recorded as they do to their business affairs, there will be no necessity for any action on the part of the Grand Chapter.

It has come to my knowledge that in some Chapters it is the custom of the Secretary to announce to the M. E. High Priest that copies of the Marks are in his possession, and upon this declaration the Brethren are exalted. This is a violation of Section 10, Article XVI of the Constitution and cannot be permitted, and from and after this date in every such case coming to my knowledge the Brethren thus exalted will be edicted, and the action of the M. E. High Priest reported to the Grand Chapter for such action as they may deem necessary.

The number of unrecorded Marks on December 27, 1906, with the corrections and additions by examination of the Book of Marks of Chapters as follows: Tamaqua No. 177, Pittston No. 242, and Westfield No. 265, amounted to 1,771; reductions during the year amounted to 1,280, leaving unrecorded Marks December 27, 1907, amounting to 491.

A table is hereto attached showing the unrecorded Marks December 27, 1906, and December 27, 1907, with the reductions made in each Chapter during the year. An examination will show the Chapter in which the M. E. High Priest and Secretary have been active in the discharge of their duties and are entitled to thanks.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of unrecorded Marks December 27, 1906, as per Grand Chapter Proceedings, 1906, page 61, | | 1,709 |
| Error, | 2 | |
| Exalted in R. A. Chapter No. 267 after examination of Mark Book, | 8 | 10 |
| Unrecorded Marks December 27, 1906, | | 1,719 |
| Mark Books examined this year: | | |
| Tamaqua R. A. Chapter, No. 177, unrecorded Marks, | 10 | |
| Pittston R. A. Chapter, No. 242, unrecorded Marks, | 36 | |
| Westfield R. A. Chapter, No. 265, unrecorded Marks, | 6 | 52 |
| Total unrecorded Marks; | | 1,771 |

## R. A. Chapters.

| No. | Name. | Place of Meeting. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1906. | Reduction 1907. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1907. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Jerusalem, | Philadelphia, | 26 | 7 | 19 |
| 21 | Perseverance, | Harrisburg, | | | |
| 43 | | Lancaster, | | | |
| 52 | Harmony, | Philadelphia, | 97 | 89 | 8 |
| 91 | Columbia, | Philadelphia, | | | |
| 150 | Washington, | Washington, | | | |
| 152 | Reading, | Reading, | 41 | 41 | |
| 159 | Schuylkill, | Minersville, | 1 | 1 | |
| 161 | Union, | Towanda, | 2 | 2 | |
| 162 | Zerubbabel, | Pittsburg, | 16 | 16 | |
| 163 | LaFayette, | Lock Haven, | | | |
| 164 | Brownsville, | Brownsville, | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 165 | Union, | Uniontown, | 20 | 12 | 8 |
| 166 | Mount Moriah, | Hollidaysburg, | 21 | 21 | |
| 167 | Eureka, | Rochester, | | | |
| 169 | Philadelphia, | Philadelphia, | 15 | 13 | 2 |
| 170 | Delta, | New Castle, | | | |
| 171 | St. John's, | Carlisle, | | | |
| 172 | Temple, | Tunkhannock, | 2 | 2 | |
| 173 | Easton, | Easton, | 6 | 6 | |
| 174 | Northumberland, | Sunbury, | 17 | 17 | |
| 175 | Keystone, | Philadelphia, | 2 | | 2 |
| 176 | Geo. Washington, | Chambersburg, | | | |
| 177 | Tamaqua,* | Tamaqua, | 10 | 10 | |

| No. | Name. | Place of Meeting. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1906. | Reduction 1907. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1907. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 178 | Catawissa, | Catawissa, | | | |
| 179 | Eureka, | Carbondale, | 38 | 38 | |
| 180 | Warren, | Montrose, | 1 | | 1 |
| 181 | Lily, | Mauch Chunk, | 34 | 34 | |
| 182 | Shekinah, | Wilkes-Barre, | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| 183 | Oriental, | Philadelphia, | 58 | 58 | |
| 185 | Lackawanna, | Scranton, | | | |
| 186 | Lewistown, | Lewistown, | 3 | 3 | |
| 187 | Oriental, | Conneautville, | 2 | 2 | |
| 189 | Mountain, | Altoona, | 118 | 118 | |
| 190 | Norristown, | Norristown, | 1 | 1 | |
| 191 | Solomon, | Meadville, | | | |
| 192 | Urania,† | Greensburg, | | | |
| 193 | Duquesne, | Pittsburg, | 45 | 24 | 21 |
| 194 | Tioga, | Wellsboro, | 12 | 5 | 7 |
| 195 | Portage, | Johnstown, | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 196 | Mountain City, | Pottsville, | 30 | 30 | |
| 197 | Weidle, | Lebanon, | 48 | 45 | 3 |
| 198 | Phœnix, | Phœnixville, | | | |
| 199 | Howell, | York, | 2 | 2 | |
| 200 | Columbus, | Corry, | 14 | 14 | |
| 201 | Standing Stone, | Huntingdon, | 5 | 5 | |
| 202 | Howell, | West Chester, | 12 | 12 | |
| 203 | Allen, | Allentown, | | | |
| 204 | Anthony Wayne, | Honesdale, | 1 | | 1 |
| 205 | Factoryville, | Factoryville, | 16 | 16 | |
| 206 | Harmony, | Beaver Falls, | | | |
| 207 | Aaron, | Titusville, | | | |
| 208 | Germantown, | Germantown, Phila., | 28 | 4 | 24 |
| 209 | Samuel C. Perkins, | Mechanicsburg, | 3 | 3 | |
| 210 | Great Bend, | Great Bend, | 2 | | 2 |
| 211 | Venango, | Franklin, | 25 | 25 | |
| 212 | Mound, | Greenville, | 12 | 12 | |
| 214 | Valley, | Plymouth, | 1 | 1 | |
| 215 | Temple, | Erie, | | | |
| 216 | Zinzendorf, | Bethlehem, | 2 | 2 | |
| 217 | Allegheny, | Allegheny, | | | |
| 218 | Bloomsburg, | Bloomsburg, | | | |
| 219 | Griscom, | Ashland, | 2 | 2 | |
| 220 | Fort Washington, | Fort Washington, | 1 | 1 | |

| No. | Name. | Place of Meeting. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1906. | Reduction 1907. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1907. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 221 | Tremont, | Tremont, | 50 | 50 | |
| 222 | Lycoming, | Williamsport, | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| 223 | Oxford, | Oxford, | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 224 | Corinthian, | Columbia, | | | |
| 225 | Jefferson, | Brookville, | | | |
| 226 | Siloam, | Frankford, Phila., | 11 | 11 | |
| 227 | Emporium, | Emporium, | 7 | 7 | |
| 228 | Clearfield, | Clearfield, | 1 | | 1 |
| 230 | Elk, | Ridgway, | 2 | 2 | |
| 232 | St. John, | Philadelphia, | 57 | 5 | 52 |
| 233 | Kensington, | Philadelphia, | 68 | 53 | 15 |
| 234 | Media, | Media, | | | |
| 235 | Occidental, | Warren, | 22 | 22 | |
| 236 | Oil City, | Oil City, | | | |
| 237 | Excelsior, | Reading, | | | |
| 238 | Newport, | Newport, | 7 | 7 | |
| 239 | Danville, | Danville, | 5 | 5 | |
| 240 | Palestine, | Philadelphia, | 75 | 21 | 54 |
| 241 | Bellefonte, | Bellefonte, | 28 | 28 | |
| 242 | Pittston,* | Pittston, | 36 | 31 | 5 |
| 243 | T. B. Freeman, | Philadelphia, | 8 | 8 | |
| 244 | Norman, | Sharon, | 1 | 1 | |
| 245 | Abington, | Jenkintown, | 19 | 5 | 14 |
| 246 | Warrior Run, | Watsontown, | | | |
| 247 | Orient, | Kittanning, | 4 | 4 | |
| 248 | Temple, | Philadelphia, | 1 | 1 | |
| 249 | Monongahela, | Monongahela City, | 55 | 54 | 1 |
| 250 | Corinthian, | Philadelphia, | 37 | 37 | |
| 251 | Signet, | Philadelphia, | 27 | 14 | 13 |
| 252 | Mizpah, | Mahanoy City, | 17 | 17 | |
| 254 | Arnold, | Port Allegheny, | 2 | 2 | |
| 255 | Bedford, | Bedford, | 26 | 23 | 3 |
| 256 | University, | Philadelphia, | 54 | 28 | 26 |
| 257 | Shiloh, | Pittsburg, | 5 | 5 | |
| 258 | Chester, | Chester, | 50 | 7 | 43 |
| 259 | Eden, | Clarion, | 2 | 2 | |
| 260 | Bradford, | Bradford, | 11 | 11 | |
| 261 | Troy, | Troy, | 30 | 30 | |
| 262 | Montgomery, | Ardmore, | | | |
| 263 | Coudersport, | Coudersport, | 2 | 2 | |

| No. | Name. | Place of Meeting. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1906. | Reduction 1907. | Unrecorded Marks Dec. 27, 1907. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 264 | Shamokin, | Shamokin, | 2 | 2 | |
| 265 | Westfield,* | Westfield, | 6 | 6 | |
| 266 | Good Samaritan, | Gettysburg, | 2 | 2 | |
| 267 | Coatesville, | Coatesville, | 14 | 14 | |
| 268 | Pittsburgh, | Pittsburgh, | 1 | 1 | |
| 269 | Ulysses, | Ulysses, | | | |
| 270 | Doylestown, | Doylestown, | | | |
| 271 | Pottstown, | Pottstown, | | | |
| 272 | Hebron, | Meyerdale, | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 273 | Butler, | Butler, | | | |
| 274 | Bangor, | Bangor, | 4 | 4 | |
| 275 | Kennett, | Kennett Square, | 26 | 26 | |
| 276 | Susquehanna, | Susquehanna, | 5 | 5 | |
| 277 | Hazleton, | Hazleton, | | | |
| 278 | Catasauqua, | Catasauqua, | 4 | 4 | |
| 279 | Kane, | Kane, | | | |
| 280 | Cyrus, | Carnegie, | | | |
| 281 | Monroe, | Stroudsburg, | 1 | 1 | |
| 282 | McKeesport, | McKeesport, | | | |
| 283 | Connellsville, | Connellsville, | | | |
| 284 | Melita, | Philadelphia, | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 285 | Wilkinsburg, | Wilkinsburg, | | | |
| 286 | Bellevue, | Bellevue, | | | |
| | | | 1,616 | 1,280 | 336 |

## Mark Lodges.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 91 | Columbia, | Philadelphia, | 42 | | 42 |
| 214 | Girard, | Philadelphia, | 69 | | 69 |
| 216 | Excelsior, | Philadelphia, | 44 | | 44 |
| | | | 155 | | 155 |

* Book of Marks examined during present year.
† Blank Book used as a Mark Book; new Mark Book being prepared.

## Masonic Clothing.

The Committee on Revision of Constitution set forth in Article XII in a detailed manner the "Clothing and Jewels of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters." It was incorporated into our Constitution for a particular purpose, that purpose being that the clothing of the subordinate Chapters might be uniform, the natural conclusion being that when clothing was purchased it would meet the requirements of this Article XII.

In Grand and Informal Visitations, I have discovered that in very many instances no attention has been paid to the requirements of the Constitution, but that the officers or Committee having the matter in charge have purchased whatever tickled their fancy. It is the bounden duty of every Capitular Mason in the jurisdiction to conform to every requirement of the Constitution and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

To have the Masonic clothing meet the requirements of the Constitution is one of those duties, and officers and members should cheerfully comply with it.

If this provision of the Constitution is unsatisfactory or objectionable to the subordinate Chapters, there is a method by which it can be changed, but until such change is made it must be complied with.

In the future all subordinate Chapters purchasing Masonic clothing will be governed by Article XII, and all Chapters outside of the County of Philadelphia must have the approval of the District Deputy Grand High Priest before purchasing clothing.

## Conclusion.

I cannot close without reference to one whom to know is to love—M. E. Companion Charles Cary, Grand Secretary.

I want in this public manner to add my testimony to his worth as an official of this Grand Chapter and to the invaluable service which he has rendered me. His devotion to Masonry and the too close attention to the business of this Grand Chapter has told heavily upon a never too rugged constitution, and illness has compelled him for the time to lay aside the cares of office. It, however, affords me great pleasure to say that he is greatly improved, and the fervent prayer of his Companions is for his speedy and absolute recovery to health and strength.

The year has been a strenuous one. Every effort has been put forth to strengthen and build up Capitular Masonry, and on every occasion I have earnestly urged upon the subordinate Chapters the great importance of living up to the teachings of the Capitular degrees. As we come into the Chapter Hall to take part in the rites and ceremonies of these degrees, may we be deeply impressed with the almost divine teachings which form the groundwork of our loved Fraternity. But do we carry the lessons of the Capitular degrees into the world? Even in our dealings with our Companions, are we not too prone to speak in stronger terms of a Companion than we should? Remember that brotherly love is forcibly taught by our Fraternity, and before we are inclined to censure and condemn a Companion, pause and ask ourselves the question if we have not our failings, and if so then brotherly love should come in and say, Forgive.

May the spirit of brotherly love permeate our every thought, word and act during the present year, and when it is ended may we all be able to say, How pleasant it is for Brethren and Companions to dwell together in unity! And may that God who is over all guide and direct us during the year upon which we have just entered.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the present Masonic year, beginning this day:

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*

The County of Philadelphia will be under the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. William B. Meredith.

1. Companion Henry A. Jenks, of Phœnixville, for the Counties of Chester and Delaware.

2. Companion Joseph C. Egbert, of Wayne, for the Counties of Bucks and Montgomery.

3. Companion John B. Sprenkel, of York, for the Counties of Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon and York.

4. Companion Allen S. Heckman, of Catasauqua, for the Counties of Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and Pike.

5. Companion Reuben A. Zimmerman, of Scranton, for the Counties of Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wayne, and Chapter No. 205, of Wyoming County.

6. Companion Henry L. Moore, of Wilkes-Barre, for the Counties of Luzerne and Sullivan, and Chapters No. 161, of Bradford County, and No. 172, of Wyoming County.

7. Companion Peter K. Filbert, of Pottsville, for the Counties of Carbon and Schuylkill.

8. Companion William F. Shay, of Watsontown, for the Counties of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union.

9. Companion Thomas J. Parmley, of Carlisle, for the Counties of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata and Perry.

10. Companion Martin L. Shaffner, of Huntingdon, for the Counties of Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon and Mifflin.

11. Companion George W. Vernes, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk and Lycoming, and Chapters No. 194, of Tioga County, and No. 261, of Bradford County.

12. Companion Walton K. Swetland, of Coudersport, for the Counties of McKean (except Chapter No. 279, at Kane) and Potter, and Chapter No. 265, of Tioga County.

13. Companion Cyrus H. Blood, of Brookville, for the Counties of Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Indiana and Jefferson.

14. Companion Winfield S. Bell, of Pittsburgh, for the County of Allegheny (except Chapter No. 282, at McKeesport), and Chapter No. 150, of Washington County.

15. Companion William Nagel, of McKeesport, for the Counties of Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington (except Chapter No. 150, at Washington) and Westmoreland, and Chapter No. 282, of Allegheny County.

16. Companion John C. Wallace, of New Castle, for the Counties of Beaver, Lawrence and Mercer.

17. Companion Peter Barkey, of Erie, for the Counties of Crawford and Erie.

18. Companion Charles E. Cooper, of Oil City, for the Counties of Forest, Venango and Warren, and Chapter No. 279, of McKean County.

*Grand Chaplains.*

Comp. Rev. Benjamin F. Delo, of Clarion.
Comp. Rev. Thompson P. Ege, of Oaks.
Comp. Rev. William B. Chalfant, D.D., of Philadelphia.
Comp. Rev. Horace F. Fuller, of Philadelphia.
Comp. Rev. Robert C. Bowling, of Kittanning.
Comp. Rev. William B. Wood, D.D., of Philadelphia.
Comp. Rev. J. Gray Bolton, D.D., of Philadelphia.
Comp. Rev. Charles H. Bond, of Norwood.

*Grand Captain of the Host.*

Comp. Daniel W. Hutchin, of Chapter No. 52.

*Grand Principal Sojourner.*

Comp. Samuel Laughlin, of Chapter No. 232.

*Grand Royal Arch Captain.*

Comp. John C. Taylor, of Chapter No. 250.

*Grand Master of Third Vail.*

Comp. Porter W. Lowry, of Chapter No. 273.

*Grand Master of Second Vail.*

Comp. S. E. Burke Kinsloe, of Chapter No. 240.

*Grand Master of First Vail.*

Comp. Frank W. Martenis, of Chapter No. 216.

*Grand Marshal.*

Comp. George B. Wells, of Chapter No. 52.

*Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*

Comp. G. Ellwood Wagner, of Chapter No. 91.

*Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*

Comp. David Carlin, of Chapter No. 286.

*Grand Pursuivant.*

Comp. August P. Kunzig, of Chapter No. 243.

*Grand Tyler.*

Comp. William B. Joslyn, of Chapter No. 175.

*Committee on Jurisprudence.*

M. E. Comp. Hibbert P. John, P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. George W. Kendrick, Jr., P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. James S. Barber, P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. H. Oscar Kline, P. G. H. P.,
In conjunction with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

*Committee on Appeals.*

M. E. Comp. Alexander H. Morgan, P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. Michael W. Jacobs, P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. J. Henry Williams, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. George W. Hall,
Comp. Adam H. Schmehl.

*Committee on Finance.*

M. E. Comp. Ezra S. Bartlett, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. M. Richards Mucklé,
Comp. William M. Donaldson.
Comp. Jacob W. Jackson,
Comp. Samuel W. Wray.

*Committee on By-Laws.*

M. E. Comp. Edgar A. Tennis, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. Stephen H. Appleton,
Comp. Joseph M. Wiatt,
Comp. John E. Poore,
Comp. Joseph W. Kenworthy.

*Committee on Correspondence.*

M. E. Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. Thomas F. Penman,
Comp. Robert E. Umbel,
Comp. James W. Hughes,
Comp. George Hale.

*Committee on Charity.*

M. E. Comp. Edward B. Spencer, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. Samuel Diemer,
Comp. Joseph H. Brown,
Comp. Daniel Baird,
Comp. Francis J. Callahan.

*Committee on Printing and Publishing.*

Comp. Louis M. Wagner,
Comp. James W. R. Washington,
Comp. Alexander McCune,
Comp. Frank E. Townsend,
Comp. Robert F. Mustin, Jr.

*Instructors in Capitular Degrees.*

Comp. Daniel W. Hutchin,
Comp. S. E. Burke Kinsloe,
Comp. J. Waelder McMullen,
Comp. William Sheneman, Jr.,
Comp. William B. Joslyn,
Comp. John H. Fairlamb.

Companion STOCKTON BATES was appointed Assistant Grand Secretary, which appointment was approved by Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and thirty minutes P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
*Grand Secretary.*

# PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS
## OF
# The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

1795, William Ball.†
1796—1797, William Moore Smith.†
1798—1802, Jonathan Bayard Smith.†
1802—1805, Israel Israel.†
1806—1813, James Milnor.†
1814, Richard Tybout.†
1815, Samuel F. Bradford.†
1816—1817, Walter Kerr.†
1818—1821, Bayse Newcomb.†
1822—1823, Josiah Randall.†
1824—1825, Michael Nisbet.†
1826, John Steele, Jr.†
1827, Tristram B. Freeman.†
1828, Joseph S. Riley.†
1829—1831, John M. Read.†
1832—1833, Samuel H. Perkins.†
1834, Enos S. Gandy.†
1835, John Y. Black.†
1836—1840, Joseph R. Chandler.†
1841—1842, Alexander Diamond.†
1843—1844, William Whitney.†
1845—1846, William Barger.†
1847, John McGrath.†
1848, John J. Krider.†
1849, James Simpson.†

†Deceased.

1850—1851, DAVID C. SKERRETT.†
1852—1853, EDWARD P. LESCURE.†
1854, ANTHONY BOURNONVILLE.†
1855—1856, HARMAN BAUGH.†
1857, JOHN C. SMITH.†
1858—1859, DANIEL THOMPSON.†
1860, BENJAMIN PARKE.†
1861, HARMAN YERKES.†
1862—1863, JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON.†
1864—1865, GEORGE W. WOOD.†
1866—1867, SAMUEL C. PERKINS.†
1868—1869, GEORGE GRISCOM.†
1870—1871, MICHAEL NISBET.†
1874—1875, ANDREW ROBENO, JR.†
1876, GEORGE E. WAGNER.†
1877—1878, ALFRED R. POTTER.†
1879—1880, WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.†
1881—1882, HIBBERT P. JOHN.
1883—1884, AUGUSTUS R. HALL.†
1885—1886, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR.
1887—1888, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON.
1889—1890, JAMES S. BARBER.
1891—1892, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.
1893—1894, EDGAR A. TENNIS.
1895—1896, EZRA S. BARTLETT.
1897—1898, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.†
1899—1900, MICHAEL W. JACOBS.
1901—1902, EDWARD B. SPENCER.
1903—1904, H. OSCAR KLINE.
1905—1906, J. HENRY WILLIAMS.
1906—1907, WILLIAM B. MEREDITH.

†Deceased.

**SAMUEL H. PERKINS**
**M. E. Grand High Priest**
**1832-1833**

# Our Dead.

"Trust not a stone to bear thy name:
The fame is lost which it imparts.
Who for his dust a tear would claim,
Must write his name on living hearts—
And they will bear it on to fame.
Its sound shall make their pulses thrill
When, heeding neither praise nor blame,
Who bore it slumbers cold and still."

# In Memoriam.

## THOMAS RANKEN PATTON

M. E. Grand Treasurer of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of
Pennsylvania.

**BORN IN CRINDLE, COUNTY LONDONDERRY, IRELAND, DECEMBER 24, 1824.**

**DIED IN PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 13, 1907.**

"Beyond the purple verge of infinite space,
The immortal soul of man shall live again ;
Live where its glories never more may wane,
And where its nobler memories will efface
All thoughts which rend the solemn pall away
That shrouds the meanness of its primal clay."

# In Memoriam.

## CHARLES ALAN CAINE

King Elect of Chapter No. 190.

**DIED JANUARY 12, 1907.**

## CLARENCE L. VAN BUSKIRK

Secretary of Chapter No. 185.

**DIED JANUARY 15, 1907.**

## NEWTON S. KINZER

Secretary of Chapter No. 271.

**DIED JANUARY 21, 1907.**

## WILLIAM S. FERRELL

King of Chapter No. 243.

**DIED MARCH 15, 1907.**

"Another hand is beckoning us,
Another call is given,
And glows once more with angel steps
The path which reaches heaven."

In Memory of

# Past High Priests, Deceased.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. NELSON BATTEN | Chapter No. | 3 | May | 10, 1907 |
| JOHN VALLERCHAMP | " " | 21 | Oct. | 8, 1907 |
| CHARLES S. VANDEGRIFT | " " | 52 | Aug. | 10, 1907 |
| WILLIAM H. BURKHARDT | " " | 52 | Oct. | 31, 1907 |
| GEORGE F. HAGENMAN | " " | 152 | May | 11, 1907 |
| J. DOUGLASS HIPPLE | " " | 152 | May | 11, 1907 |
| C. GILBERT STEFFE | " " | 152 | May | 11, 1907 |
| J. CALVIN HOFFEDITZ | " " | 152 | May | 23, 1907 |
| ANDREW J. GILMORE | " " | 165 | Feb. | 4, 1907 |
| GEORGE W. SMITH | " " | 166 | Apr. | 22, 1907 |
| W. BRONSON ORR | " " | 176 | Mar. | 27, 1907 |
| DANIEL W. SEARLE | " " | 180 | Nov. | 27, 1907 |
| JOHN C. McCONNELL | " " | 180 | Dec. | 12, 1907 |
| ASA R. BEERS | " " | 181 | Mar. | 12, 1907 |
| EUGENE H. BLAKSLEE | " " | 181 | Oct. | 16, 1907 |
| JAMES LANING | " " | 183 | Apr. | 18, 1907 |
| JOEL S. PERKINS | " " | 183 | July | 24, 1907 |
| WILLIAM IRWIN | " " | 186 | Aug. | 3, 1907 |
| CHARLES J. MANN | " " | 189 | Apr. | 22, 1907 |
| CYRUS E. HIPPLE | " " | 190 | Jan. | 13, 1907 |
| M. PARK DAVIS | " " | 191 | Jan. | 23, 1907 |
| SAMUEL B. DICK | " " | 191 | May | 10, 1907 |
| WILLIAM J. A. KENNEDY | " " | 193 | Jan. | 18, 1907 |

In Memory of

# Past High Priests, Deceased.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AUGUST PETIT | Chapter No. | 194 | July | 7, 1907 |
| HARRY GRANT MILLER | " | 197 | May | 11, 1907 |
| CHARLES LEONARD HENRY | " | 197 | May | 11, 1907 |
| JEHU C. WEBB | " | 198 | Feb. | 2, 1907 |
| GEORGE W. BRILLINGER | " | 199 | May | 3, 1907 |
| S. BRYSON CHANEY | " | 201 | Mar. | 6, 1907 |
| LEWIS C. MOSES | " | 202 | Mar. | 14, 1907 |
| WILLIAM G. ENO | " | 214 | May | 16, 1907 |
| J. HARRY HORNER | " | 217 | Apr. | 29, 1907 |
| WILLIAM STUART | " | 217 | Aug. | 8, 1907 |
| THOMAS M. LIVINGSTON | " | 224 | July | 13, 1907 |
| THOMAS L. TEMPLETON | " | 225 | Mar. | 9, 1907 |
| MARTIN G. ROOK | " | 228 | Oct. | 25, 1907 |
| CHARLES H. STOCKWELL | " | 232 | Nov. | 22, 1907 |
| ROBERT HARPER | " | 234 | Mar. | 1, 1907 |
| CHARLES E. HOWITZ | " | 242 | Feb. | 11, 1907 |
| WILLIAM JONES | " | 243 | June | 19, 1907 |
| SAMUEL KEIGHTLEY | " | 245 | Jan. | 12, 1907 |
| CHARLES EVANS | " | 245 | Nov. | 28, 1907 |
| JOHN P. McCORD | " | 257 | Oct. | 6, 1907 |
| GEORGE A. LAMKIN | " | 261 | Nov. | 21, 1907 |
| MILES W. McNAUGHTON | " | 265 | May | 3, 1907 |

# REPORT

## OF THE

# Committee on Correspondence.

The Committee on Correspondence, in the following pages, submit their annual report. The proceedings as they have been received have been distributed to the following members of the Committee for review:

| | |
|---|---|
| Alabama, . . . | Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P. |
| Arizona, . . . | |
| Arkansas, . . . | |
| California, . . . | |
| Canada, . . . | |
| Colorado, . . . | |
| Connecticut, . . . | |
| Delaware, . . . | |
| District of Columbia, . | |
| England, . . . | |
| Florida, . . . | Thomas F. Penman. |
| General Grand Chapter, . | |
| Georgia, . . . | |
| Illinois, . . . . | |
| Indian Territory, . . | |
| Indiana, . . . . | |
| Iowa, . . . . | |
| Ireland, . . . | |
| Kansas, . . . | |
| Kentucky, . . . | |
| Louisiana, . . | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Maine, | Robert E. Umbel. |
| Maryland, | |
| Massachusetts, | |
| Michigan, | |
| Minnesota, | |
| Mississippi, | |
| Missouri, | |
| Montana, | |
| Nebraska, | |
| Nevada, | |
| New Brunswick, | |
| New Hampshire, | James W. Hughes. |
| New Jersey, | |
| New Mexico, | |
| New York, | |
| North Carolina, | |
| North Dakota, | |
| Nova Scotia, | |
| Ohio, | |
| Oregon, | |
| Quebec, | |
| Rhode Island, | |
| Scotland, | |
| South Carolina, | George Hale. |
| South Dakota, | |
| Tennessee, | |
| Texas, | |
| Vermont, | |
| Victoria, | |
| Virginia, | |
| Washington, | |
| West Virginia, | |
| Wisconsin, | |

## ALABAMA.

This Grand Chapter met in its Eightieth Annual Convocation at Montgomery, December 3 and 4, 1906. A full list of Grand Officers and Representatives were present.

The volume opens with a portrait and biography of the Grand High Priest, Companion Francis H. Bates.

The Grand High Priest delivered his address. In it he said:

"No one can say, at the completion of any service, that he has accomplished all that he desired or hoped for."

He said he had been unable to visit as many of the constituent Chapters as he had hoped to. It was not through indifference, but owing to circumstances over which he had no control; but while he was denied the pleasure of such visits, he assured them that his heart was with them.

He alluded in proper terms to the disaster at San Francisco and issued a circular letter to the constituent Chapters, urging them to contribute to the extent of their means for the relief of their suffering Companions. They contributed $393.75.

He paid due respect to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions.

He granted a dispensation for the organization of a new Chapter; one for the reorganization of a Chapter which had become defunct, and a number of what he calls "special dispensations" to confer degrees out of time and to hold special elections, etc.

He gives a great deal of "taffy" to Companion George A. Beauchamp, Grand Secretary and make-believe Past Grand High Priest, saying:

"Permit me, too, to pay an especial tribute to our zealous and untiring Grand Secretary for his labors, so freely and graciously bestowed upon the Chapters of Alabama. To him more than to anyone should be given our sincerest thanks, and I am sure I voice the feelings of every Royal Arch Mason in Alabama when I say, May he be long with us in his present official capacity."

The Committee on Work reported by conferring the several degrees upon Brother Andrew Bilbro Perry in due form, using two substitutes in the Royal Arch degree; Montgomery Chapter, No. 22, having requested that the Committee on Work make their report by conferring the degrees on him, he having been duly elected to receive the same by said Chapter.

The Grand Secretary adds a note. He says:

"To correct a misapprehension which we observe exists in other jurisdictions, it is proper to state that the Companion on whom these degrees were conferred is *not* a non-affiliate, but that the conferring the degrees upon him by the Grand Chapter constitutes him a member of the Chapter which elected him to receive the same."

An amendment to the Constitution was offered, as follows:

"The Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest shall have the power of convening the Grand Chapter whenever in their opinion it may be necessary, and shall be bound to do so whenever requested by six Chapters, etc."

This amendment was defeated, as we think it should have been. The Grand High Priest should be the sole judge of when a meeting of the Grand Chapter, not provided for by the Constitution, is needed, and he should decline to call one when such is not needed, in his judgment, no matter how many Chapters ask him to do so.

As for the Deputy Grand High Priest, admitting that there is any use for such an officer, it would be giving him the power which belongs of right to the Grand High Priest, whom he could ignore if he saw fit.

The Grand Chapter appears to be in good financial condition. The Committee on Finance reported that they found the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer neatly and correctly kept, showing a cash balance of $3,276.50. No debts reported.

The Report on Correspondence is again written by Companion William Y. Titcomb, who presents a very interesting and readable report, as he always does.

In comparing ages with Companion Barlow, of Connecticut, who says he is seventy-six, he, Companion T., says he is four years his senior; that if he lives until January 28th of the present year he will be eighty years old. We hope he has safely passed the eightieth milestone, and that we may have more reports from him.

Pennsylvania is accorded a kindly review. He says:

"The writer had ventured, in regard to substitutes, to ask how the exaltation of one or even two candidates conforms to the requirement, *Three, no more, no less.* Companion Henderson replies thus:

" 'We can give him no better or more comprehensive reply to this than to refer him to our own words which he quotes before he asks the question.' "

And then he goes on to say:

"Our eminent Companion will pardon us for thinking that our question remains unanswered. But we suppose that further discussion of the use of substitutes is useless."

We regret that we have not made ourself plain to our Companion. We can be no plainer. We agree with him that further discussion of the use of substitutes, between us, is useless.

We observe that the Committee on Work, which made their report by conferring the degrees in the presence of the Grand Chapter, used two substitutes in the Royal Arch degree.

M. H. H.

## ARIZONA.

The Grand Chapter commenced its Seventeenth Annual Convocation in the city of Phœnix, on Wednesday, the 14th

day of November, 1906. Companion Prosper Powell Parker, M. E. Grand High Priest, was present and presided. Representatives of six of the eight Chapters which comprise the jurisdiction were present and a number of Past High Priests.

The Grand High Priest made his address, which opens with a list of the dead of his own and other jurisdictions and a list of Representatives.

He only mentions one dispensation. Cohise Chapter, No. 4, adopted a resolution that they ask the Grand High Priest for a dispensation permitting them to ballot on the application of William Harry Trelease for degrees, without reference to a Committee. The reasons for asking for this dispensation were that the applicant was about to remove permanently from the State, and cannot remain the necessary length of time required for reference to a Committee. Upon ballot being taken the request was unanimously endorsed and the Grand High Priest granted the dispensation.

He instructed the Grand Secretary to draw a warrant on the treasury in favor of the Chairman of the Relief Committee of California Earthquake Sufferers, though he does not mention the amount.

He made four official visitations.

He was clearly of the opinion that it would be for the best interest of Capitular Masonry, as well as in compliance with the orders of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, that this Grand Chapter adopt the ritual, and he recommended the question to the careful consideration of the Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's address relative to the adoption of a ritual, reported that they approved his

recommendation. On motion, the report was received and adopted.

The financial condition is good, the Grand Treasurer reporting the balance in his hands as $2,652.85; whereupon the Committee to whom the report was referred reported that it had examined the reports, bills and vouchers and found all to be correct, and as the balance now in the treasury exceeds twenty-six hundred dollars, and all conditions look favorable, they recommended that two thousand dollars of that amount be invested by the Grand Treasurer safely for purposes of interest.

The report was adopted and the recommendation concurred in.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence begged to report that it had received copies of their proceedings from all the Grand Chapters with which this Grand Chapter is in fraternal correspondence, and it is happy to report that peace and harmony prevail. For economic reasons they prepared no review of the proceedings.

The volume is embellished with a portrait of the Grand High Priest, Prosper P. Parker.

M. H. H.

## ARKANSAS.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Arkansas assembled in regular Annual Convocation in the Masonic Temple at the city of Little Rock, on Thursday, November 22, A.D. 1906, A.I. 2436, at ten o'clock A.M.

Companion N. P. Richmond, M. E. Grand High Priest, was present and presided. There was also a full attendance of appointed Grand Officers. There were present nine Past Grand High Priests.

The Grand High Priest's address was brief and related to local matters. He paid proper tribute to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions. He granted four dispensations for the organization of new Chapters. He also issued a number of what he called "special dispensations" for the revival of dormant Chapters, balloting on petitions and conferring degrees out of time, continuing work after loss of warrants, etc.

But few questions were submitted for his decision, all of which, except in one instance, were answered by reference to the Digest.

Finding no direct precedent for the following decision, he reported it for the consideration of the Grand Chapter.

"*Statement.*—A candidate for the degrees in ———— Chapter, No. ——, has lived and been engaged in business in this jurisdiction for about fifteen years. While living here he took the degrees in the Blue Lodge, and still retains membership in ———— Lodge, No. ——, F. & A. M., located here.

"About eight months ago he sold his business here and purchased stock in a sawmill in Louisiana, and accepted a position with the sawmill corporation as manager of the store connected therewith. His intention is to return to this place when the mill has cut out the timber which has been purchased there and make this his permanent home; in fact, he regards this as his home now, and retains his rights as a citizen here. The time he will live at the sawmill is uncertain.

"*Question.*—1. Has ———— Chapter jurisdiction over the Brother?

"2. Does jurisdiction depend upon residence or citizenship?

"3. Does not his membership in the Blue Lodge give jurisdiction to the Chapter located at the same place?

"*Answer.*—1. The jurisdiction of ———— Chapter would depend entirely upon the question as to what the intention of the Brother really was at the time he sold out his business and moved to the State of Louisiana. A present intention of returning, unless entertained at the time of leaving this State, would not be sufficient.

"2. Jurisdiction depends upon the present residence of the party applying for membership—the term residence, as used in this connection, implying the place of his permanent domicile rather than a temporary abode—and a party leaving his place of residence for a certain purpose,

intending at the time that such removal shall be temporary, and with the then fixed intention of returning whenever such purpose shall have been accomplished, such removal does not constitute such a change of residence as would prevent the Chapter from receiving and acting upon his petition.

"3. Membership in a Blue Lodge does not of itself give jurisdiction to the Chapter located at the same place."

We are glad to note that the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the above decision was referred, approved of it, and that their report was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest referred to some miscellaneous matters which do not interest the general reader.

The Grand Secretary read his annual report. He says Royal Arch Masonry was never, to his knowledge, in a more prosperous working condition than at the present time. He says there are seventy-eight Chapters at work and four under dispensation. There have been 407 exaltations; affiliations, 68; reinstatements, 46; deaths, 59; dismissions, 83; suspensions for non-payment of dues, 59; suspension for unmasonic conduct, 1; expulsions, 3. Total number of members, 3,231; net gain over report of 1905, 424.

The Grand Treasurer also made a report. After paying all demands he had a cash balance of $3,564.36.

Companion Fay Hempstead, P. G. H. P., submitted a report of his visit to the Thirty-third Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, at Boston, Mass., June 19, to 22, inclusive, 1906.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances reported that nothing had been brought to their attention.

It was moved that a donation of $100.00 be made to a needy Companion, which motion was amended to include a donation of $50.00 to another needy Companion. The motion was adopted, and the Grand Secretary ordered to issue warrants for the separate amounts.

No further business appearing, the Grand Chapter was

closed in Ample Form until ten o'clock A.M., November 21, 1907.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. H. H.

## CALIFORNIA.

The Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, which failed to reach us last year, arrived this year in plenty of time for this Report.

The Grand Chapter held its Fifty-third Annual Convocation in Mission Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, Tuesday, April 16, 1907, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. John Francis Hughes, Grand High Priest, presiding. Seventy-five chartered Chapters were represented, with three under dispensation. An eloquent prayer was offered up by the Grand Chaplain, Companion Eli Tucker Blackmer.

The address of the Grand High Priest was brief. He opens as follows:

"One year ago I left you in all the confusion of a great calamity. The avenues to our Sanctuary were filled with the falling portraits of Companions gone. The Tabernacle was deserted and the robes, ornaments and jewels were cast aside as of no value. The lesser lights were extinguished and the Companions separated and fled as from a pestilence.

"The threads of the business then being considered were subsequently gathered up by your officers, and such legislation as had been determined upon was concluded and placed of record by the Grand Council.

"To-day all is changed and we are assembled, through the goodness of the Supreme Ruler, to give thanks for His care and protection through the recess of Grand Chapter, and to permit us to come together again to-day in the observance of our appointed Fifty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of California."

He granted dispensations for the constituting of new Chapters and the formation of others. In regard to decisions he says:

"I have no decisions to report, the inquiries made having been confined to the construction of the law of Capitular Masonry as exemplified in its usages and purposes."

He made a large number of visitations to the constituent Chapters.

He expresses his thanks to their Representatives who so ably and eloquently expressed their sympathetic interest in their misfortunes, and prints in full the letter of Companion Alexander H. Morgan, their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The financial condition is first class. The total assets are $66,092.88, without any liabilities.

The total amount received for relief in consequence of the fire and earthquake was $24,630.15.

The business seems to have been largely of a routine character. A large part of the volume is taken up with a list of the members of the constituent Chapters. A steel-engraved portrait of Grand High Priest Hughes graces the front of the book.

The Report on Correspondence is written by Companion William A. Davies. Pennsylvania receives a fraternal notice of four pages.

M. H. H.

## CANADA.

The Forty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the city of Toronto, on Wednesday, January 23, 1907. Companion Abraham Shaw presided as Grand Z.; the Grand Z., Companion William Roaf, being absent in Vancouver, B. C., where he had been sent by his physician in search of health. He sent his address in manuscript and it was read by the acting Grand Z. We have seldom read a more interesting document than this. It is replete with good ideas which could with profit be

adopted outside of Canada. It is a full and complete record of all his acts, and shows that though handicapped by ill health he did his duty.

He reviews the formation of his Grand Chapter and speaks feelingly of the dead of his own and other jurisdictions. He made eight Grand Visitations, and would have made more had the state of his health permitted. Wherever he went he witnessed some of the degrees and commends the efficiency of the officers. He speaks as follows of reunions under the head

"Of Doubtful Utility.

"One or two Chapters of age and influence have adopted or copied the reunion idea. Whatever advantage such annual events possess for other branches of the Masonic tree, their application to Royal Arch Masonry can hardly be justified. It is too much like putting all the eggs into one basket. There is a big feast for one day in the year and a famine for the remainder. A Royal Arch Chapter, which is supposed to meet on a certain night in every month, should be provided with Masonic attraction for the Companions who are summoned to attend. If the work is to be crowded into an afternoon and evening of one day in the 365, the chances are that the newly exalted have learned little and that their enthusiasm, as well as that of their older Companions, will fade with long waiting. Of course if the occasion were to take the form of a Chapter of Instruction, with the district well represented, as is the case annually in Ottawa, the advantage and benefit are at once apparent. To my view every regular Convocation should be made interesting for the Companions, if their love is to be retained."

He speaks thus of a coming event:

"A Coming Event.

"The next Annual Convocation will mark an important epoch in the history of the Grand Chapter of Canada. It will be our fiftieth, and whether it will be distinguished in any special manner it is for you to say. Our sister jurisdictions across the border seldom fail to celebrate their semi-centennial when they reach it, and I do not think the dignity of the Grand Body would suffer were we to copy them in this regard, even if we do so in a modest degree. I do not offer anything in the way of

suggestion—that I leave to Grand Chapter; but I considered that a reference to the coming anniversary would be a timely reminder and elicit some comment and probably recommendation."

On another subject he says:

"Obedience a Duty.

"A Chapter in the city of Toronto included in its circular to the Companions the following notice: 'All applications for Exaltation and Affiliation must be in the hands of the Scribe E. on or before the ——— of each month, to be considered by the Executive Committee before being placed on the monthly circular to be balloted for.'

"This the Grand Superintendent, observing, took exception to, on the ground that an applicant's petition was not the property of the Chapter until formally presented at a Convocation of the same, and could not therefore be dealt with by the Executive Committee, as such, before that time. He wrote the First Principal to that effect, and requested that the notice be removed from the circular. The Chapter officer, however, held to the opinion that the notice was in order, continued its publication, and in the course of correspondence objected to what he termed the interference of the inspecting officer. The latter then appealed to me, and I, agreeing with his views, instructed him to convey my command to the First Principal of the Chapter that the notice objected to should be forthwith discontinued. The prompt submission to that command saved further unpleasant controversy.

"The Grand Superintendent in his district represents the Grand First Principal, to whom an appeal is always in order if his acts are considered wrong; but it is the duty of a Chapter ruler to obey his orders and submit, for the time being, to his ruling. To argue the point is not only to disregard a solemn undertaking, but it displays a bad example.

"Obedience is one of the excellences of character, the cultivation of which is impressed upon the Apprentice Mason. If it is overlooked in the capacity of one selected to guide and instruct, it is not calculated to increase respect for the position."

He expresses his opinion as to where the Grand Chapter ought to meet, as follows:

"Before closing I would like to mention a word on a subject which for two or three years now has been agitated more or less strongly among some of us at Grand Convocations. It is a matter that must be discussed, for it is a necessity of our law, and I dare not presume to offer any personal advice. All I ask is for you to consider the interests of this Grand Chapter,

as well as your own personal convenience, when you come to decide on your place of meeting. Bear in mind that we meet at a time of year when winter is most trying and severe, and when creature comforts in traveling and otherwise are not to be despised, especially with those of us who are advancing into age. For six years now we have met at this centre of travel, and since doing so Grand Chapter has not only doubled in revenue and numbers, but the attendances at our Annual Convocations, especially from the outlying districts, have been of such proportions as to be in keeping with the dignity of this Grand Body. Where you decide, there we must go; but I merely ask you not to decide hastily, nor without giving the matter the consideration it deserves."

We would make further extracts from this address did time and space permit.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were then presented. They are of local interest and show them to have performed their duties faithfully.

The Grand Chapter of Western Australia, as at present constituted, was refused recognition.

The Executive Committee, to whom was referred the Grand Z.'s address, reported and said among other things:

"The Committee rejoice in the prosperous condition in which Capitular Masonry is found to be at the close of the first half of a century of work in this great jurisdiction, and recommend that the members of the Grand Council, together with the Past Grand Zs. and the Grand Scribe E., be a Committee authorized to decide upon and carry into effect a suitable celebration of our fiftieth anniversary."

The report was adopted.

The Grand Chapter by resolution selected Toronto as the place of meeting in 1908.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is written as formerly by Companion George J. Bennett. Pennsylvania is given a fraternal review of three pages. He speaks of the address of Companion J. Henry Williams and his decisions without comment. He speaks in complimentary terms of our report, calling us "The five talented Companions."

On most subjects we agree with Companion Bennett, but our opinions on dependent membership are diametrically opposed.

Though late, we desire to acknowledge from Companion Bennett the receipt, on Christmas, 1906, of a Christmas card. It is before us as we write and is a reminder of a pleasant pen acquaintanceship. We return our thanks for the remembrance. M. H. H.

## COLORADO.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter held its Thirty-third Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple, Denver, Thursday, September 19, 1907, M. E. Joseph W. Milsom, Grand High Priest, present and presiding. Representatives present from thirty-nine Chapters. The Grand Chapter was opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The address of the Grand High Priest was short and confined to local matters. He mentions the deaths of Companions Thomas Nicholl, George Keith Kimball and Charles Otto Unfug. Two of them had attained the rank of Past Grand High Priest and one Past Deputy Grand High Priest. A portrait and biography accompany each.

He constituted two new Chapters and issued but few dispensations. He made no decisions and made four visitations.

He says:

"Capitular Masonry in Colorado is making a clean, healthy growth. The increase in membership during the past year has been satisfactory and peace and harmony prevail throughout our jurisdiction. The net gain during the year was 201 members."

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary each made

reports which show the Grand Chapter to be in good financial condition.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances reported that nothing had come before them.

The Report on Correspondence is again written by Companion Ernest Le Neve Foster. Pennsylvania is kindly noticed in three pages. He quotes from Grand High Priest Williams' and Grand High Priest Meredith's addresses, and says he wishes we would go and help him out on the subject we commented on under Alabama, in regard to our law requiring applicants to wait six months between Lodge and Chapter.

He does not say in what respect he needs help, else we would be glad to assist him, as far as we are able. We ask him to be more specific.

The book contains a portrait of the present Grand High Priest, Companion William W. Cooper.

M. H. H.

## CONNECTICUT.

A Special Convocation was held at Wallingford, October 29, 1906, for the purpose of constituting Lockwood Chapter, No. 48, and installing its officers, which was done.

The One Hundred and Ninth Annual Convocation was held at New Haven, May 14, 1907. George N. Delap, Grand High Priest, presided. A full representation of Grand Officers and Representatives was present.

The Grand High Priest made his address, in which he stated that the Grand Chapter of Connecticut has but two predecessors on the roll of Grand Chapters in the United States—Pennsylvania, organized in 1795, and Rhode Island, organized in 1797.

There are forty-eight Chapters, containing 7,000 members.

He was asked for some decisions, which he does not specify, saying that a reference to the Constitution and general regulations fully cover them in all cases.

He made a number of Grand Visitations.

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe each made a report of their doings, which consisted principally of visitations.

The Grand Secretary reported that all the Chapters had made their returns and that there had been 457 exaltations during the past year.

The report of the Trustees shows the Grand Chapter to be in good financial condition.

The Grand Chapter granted an appropriation of $750.00 to the Masonic Charity Foundation, and an extra appropriation of $50.00 to the Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Grievances reported that nothing had come before them; in other words, that there were no grievances.

At the previous Grand Convocation two Chapters were fined for not making their returns in proper time. The Representatives of both Chapters appeared at the present Convocation and offered reasonable excuses for their Chapters' failure to comply with the regulation, and the fines were remitted. We have always been under the impression that fines were unmasonic.

The Report on Correspondence is written as formerly by Past Grand High Priest John H. Barlow. He reviews Pennsylvania for 1906. He quotes from Grand High Priest Williams' address exhaustively. The Past Grand High Priest on whom the eulogy was pronounced was Companion William C. Hamilton, not Charles Williams. We have no such Past Grand High Priest.

He quotes our remarks on the proposal of Alabama to

delegate certain powers to the Deputy Grand High Priest. He quotes Companion Bates' conclusion in full and regrets his retirement from the Committee.

The Proceedings are embellished by portraits of George N. Delap, Grand High Priest, and James McCormick, Past Grand High Priest and present Grand Secretary.

M. H. H.

## DELAWARE.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Delaware was held in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Wilmington, on the 16th day of January, A.D. 1907, and opened at one P.M., Harry W. Lowe, M. E. Grand High Priest, whose portrait adorns the volume, present and presiding.

In his address he mentions the dead of his own and other jurisdictions.

In regard to decisions, he says:

"During the year a number of questions were asked by High Priests, all of which were answered by reference to the law."

He made a number of recommendations, as follows:

"No. 1.—That a Standing Committee on Printing be appointed, to attend to all printing of this Grand Chapter, the Chairman to be a printer, if possible.

"No. 2.—That you adopt a resolution giving the subordinate Chapters the privilege of dropping from the rolls the name of any Companion who may be one year in arrears for dues, without any special action. Trials for non-payment of dues are, in my experience, a failure, so far as the Chapter is concerned. On the books of my own Chapter the names of fifty-seven Companions who are in debt for dues for two years and over appear, and the Chapter is carrying nearly $700.00 of bad accounts. The adoption of such a resolution will not prevent a Chapter from remitting the dues of any worthy Companion whose case merits it. This system prevails in a great many jurisdictions, to the benefit of all concerned.

"No. 3.—That the resolution adopted January 25, 1892, permitting the M. E. High Priests of Chapters to open and close on the first three degrees in short form, be rescinded, and in the future they be required to open and close in full form, in order to instruct the Companions who are not familiar with the ceremony.

"No. 4.—That the Chapters be requested to use the charges for the several degrees as offered by the system in use in this State previous to the adoption of the work of the General Grand Chapter, as we believe them to be more impressive to the candidate, and, besides, High Priests would find it necessary to commit them to memory, while the system now in use permits them to read from the ritual.

"I further recommend that Chapters be required to work the Past Master's degree in accordance with the provisions of the ritual in use before the adoption of the work of the General Grand Chapter. The Past Master's degree belongs absolutely to the Capitular system.

"No. 5.—That you adopt a resolution or law preventing anyone not a High Priest or Past High Priest from conferring any degree under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

"No. 6.—That a Committee of three be appointed to arrange for and organize in this jurisdiction a Council of Royal and Select Masters. This jurisdiction we believe to be the only one without a Council, and Delaware should not be behind in anything pertaining to Cryptic Masonry.

"No. 7.—I recommend that a Committee of three be appointed to procure aprons for the Officers of this Grand Chapter."

The address is brief and he reports the present membership at 917, a net gain of 77, and the net balance in bank, December 29, 1906, as $292.07 in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and $636.25 in the hands of the Grand Secretary; also $482.00 invested in the Wilmington Savings Fund.

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Warrants, Dispensations, By-Laws, Past Grand High Priests' Memorials, through some one of the members of the several committees, reported that nothing had been brought to their attention and therefore there was nothing to report.

The amendments to the Constitution offered at the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation, held January 17, 1906, then came up for action, Section No. 6 being adopted and reading as follows:

"None but High Priests or Past High Priests shall be eligible to any elective office in this Grand Chapter."

Section No. 8 was, by a vote of the Grand Chapter, amended as follows:

"The elective officers of this Grand Chapter must be chosen at each Annual Convocation by ballot and by a majority of all the votes cast. The appointed officers shall be selected by the Grand High Priest, and their qualifications shall be that they must be permanent members of this Grand Chapter."

When the Grand Chapter came to consider the recommendations made by the Grand High Priest, No. 1 was finally amended and passed to read:

"That a Standing Committee on Printing be appointed to attend to all printing of this Grand Chapter, and the Grand Secretary to be Chairman of same."

No. 2 was acted upon unfavorably.

Nos. 3 and 4 were adopted.

No. 5. The Committee on Address presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

"That the conferring of any degree of the Capitular system under the authority of this Grand Chapter be confined to a High Priest or Past High Priest."

Nos. 6, 7 and 8 were adopted.

When we come to the Report on Correspondence, we again meet our old friend, Virginius V. Harrison, Past Grand High Priest, who is Chairman of the Committee and writes the Report. He gives Pennsylvania for 1905 a generous review of two pages, reviewing the business transacted at our several Quarterly Communications.

We are sorry to see that the Grand Chapter of Delaware, after due consideration of the subject, still clings to the Past Master's degree and confers it in their Chapters.

On other subjects we are in general agreement with them.

M. H. H.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This Grand Chapter held two Special Convocations, one on May 8, 1906, and the other on December 21, 1906; the first for the purpose of attending the funeral of Past Grand High Priest Harold Walker, the other for the purpose of acting upon the report of the Committee on Work and Lectures, which contemplated a thorough revision of the ritual of the Capitular degrees, and the substitution of the work recommended by the General Grand Chapter for the work as rendered in this jurisdiction in many important particulars.

The revised ritual was adopted, to be put into effect May 1, 1907.

The Fortieth Annual Convocation was held in Washington, February 3, 1907. M. E. Companion Charles Becker, Grand High Priest, presided. There was a good attendance of Grand Officers, Past Grand High Priests and Representatives of the constituent Chapters.

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form.

The Grand High Priest in his address, after congratulating the Companions on all being permitted to meet again, referred to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions. He mentioned the appointment of Grand Representatives, and has the following to say concerning decisions and dispensations:

"As a proof of the thoroughness with which the several High Priests of the constituent Chapters have acquainted themselves with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I have to state that no case calling for an official decision has been submitted to me. On several occasions where doubt existed my advice has been solicited and accepted cheerfully, none however being of sufficient importance to require special mention.

"It has been a source of gratification to me that no dispensation for any purpose has been solicited, as I think the powers of the Grand High Priest to grant such should be made use of in very rare cases only."

The Grand and constituent Chapters sent $695.50 to the California sufferers.

He visted freely among the Chapters, and reports that their condition, taken collectively, is a source of great satisfaction. Their financial condition he reports as good, notwithstanding that they disbursed $1,500.38 for charity during the year. Their total assets are $69,559.28. They have 3,355 members in good standing.

The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Trustees, and Committee on Accounts each made reports; the reports show the total assets to be $4,953.11. No liabilities reported.

An amendment to the Constitution was offered as follows:

"Nor shall more than one Convocation be held on the same day for the purpose of conferring more than one degree on the same candidate, or two degrees as herein provided for."

Action on the said amendment to be taken at the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

Companion A. W. Johnston writes the Report on Correspondence and gives Pennsylvania for 1905 a kindly notice.

M. H. H.

## FLORIDA.

Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter held at Jacksonville, May 14, 1907.

The address of Grand High Priest Joseph R. Keller is a bright, thoughtful document, reflecting much interest in the fulfillment of his duties and the welfare of the Grand Chapter. In it was announced the death of Companion George Stone Hallmark, Grand High Priest in 1883.

He indulges in a brief dissertation on "patience" as a Masonic virtue, and from a want of it deduces a tendency to profanity. He says that habitual profanity should

make an applicant ineligible for admission into the Chapter. And he is right.

That he had no decisions to render he presumed was due to the fact that "the Companions considered they knew all the law, or that the Grand High Priest didn't know any."

From the reports of officers it would appear that the affairs of the Chapters are in good condition and the membership growing.

There is no Report on Correspondence. The Grand High Priest, in his address, directs attention to its absence in the past, and urges that, unless in view of the building of a new Masonic Temple economy forbids it, such a report be presented next year and printed with the Proceedings. Therefore we hope that in 1908 we may learn whether other Grand Chapters are helpful to Florida.

William S. Ware, Jacksonville, Grand High Priest.

Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## GEORGIA.

Eighty-fifth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, apparently a large gathering, at Macon, April 24, 1907.

The conspicuous feature of the Grand High Priest's address is a long list of dispensations granted. It would seem that the "dispensation mill" worked overtime. Many of them were "to receive, ballot and confer all the degrees at same convocation." If "to receive" means to act upon a petition at the same meeting it is presented, and without notice to the membership of the Chapter, it looks like "railroading" to a high degree. We think, however, that this inference cannot be right, as these and all other acts of the Grand High Priest were approved by the Grand Chapter, and otherwise it seems improbable that some one would not

protest against a wholesale admission of candidates into the Fraternity without due inquiry and investigation.

Under the caption "Decisions" he says:

> "Now, Companions, I've been asked a great many questions that I think have been answered satisfactorily, and not necessary to be reported, as in most cases it was of importance only to the Companions, and not to the interest of the Craft as a whole."

He may have been quite right in thus disposing of the subject, but it would seem that the same questions might arise in various Chapters of the jurisdiction, and the same light on them might interest and be helpful to all alike. We learn many things from the experience of others, and precedent in Masonic affairs, backed by authority, relieves many a doubtful situation. The Grand High Priest is presumed to know the law and to apply it correctly. He is not infallible, however. If his decisions are correct the whole jurisdiction should have the benefit of them; if any be incorrect, the Grand Chapter should rectify the mistake, to avoid future complications. This comment is not made in criticism of the Grand High Priest of Georgia, for in his case, as in other jurisdictions sometimes, trivial questions may have been asked which any one of ordinary intelligence, and qualifications to warrant his being an officer of a Chapter, could correctly determine for himself. Besides answering such questions, they deserve no further notice from the Grand High Priest. But where "a great many questions" have been asked, it occurred to us that some of them might deserve to be reported, or that there was a regretable ignorance of Capitular law and usage, or a timidity to apply them, on the part of Chapter officers. In this connection we observe that 500 copies of the Constitution and Laws were ordered to be printed and distributed among the Chapters.

The reports of the various Committees were adopted as

presented. Among them is a recommendation from the Jurisprudence Committee against the creation of the office of Grand Lecturer, at a salary of $100.00 per month. Another, from the same Committee, that proficiency in the Master's degree be required for advancement to the Chapter degrees. From the Finance Committee, to appropriate $1,000.00 to the Masonic Home. Also this:

"The resolutions of several Companions asking for the appropriation of $100.00 for the Industrial Home was referred to your Finance Committee, and duly considered. Our sympathies are fully enlisted in this noble enterprise, but we cannot see our way clear to recommend the appropriation. The indigent Masons of Georgia and their families are crying to us for help and knocking at our doors for admission, taking every available dollar to meet this demand."

The Grand Treasurer had in hand a balance of $10,188.39.

The Committee on Memorials announced the death of Companion William A. Davis, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

As the General Grand Chapter is to meet at Savannah in 1909, it was resolved to pledge the Grand Chapter for the sum of $5,000.00 for entertainment of that body.

Report on Correspondence is again by Companion A. M. Lambdin. As a veteran in this "labor of love," his work and the picture he has written of himself are, no doubt, too well and favorably known among the Guild to appraise of any value such commendation as we might bestow. Our impressions on first acquaintance are pleasing. His report before us is good reading, especially as the doings of our Grand Chapter (1905) receive extended and kindly notice. Curiosity to know what other people say about us always gives way to pleasure when the report is complimentary. His notice of the talents of our then Grand High Priest, Companion J. Henry Williams, finds a grateful response

in the hearts of Pennsylvania Chapter Masons. Companion Williams is one of the most distinguished Grand High Priests we ever had, and as a fitting recognition of his services to the Craft he has again been honored by his Brethren of Pennsylvania by election to the office of Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge.

Companion Lambdin complains that the Representative of his Grand Chapter near our Grand Chapter has been delinquent in his duties. We plead guilty for him. He seems to have been missing in 1906 also, and if his presence at our meetings is important, perhaps there should be a change. But where was our Representative when the Grand Chapter of Georgia met? We hope it is not retaliation!

Thomas F. Moody, Cuthbert, Grand High Priest.

W. A. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## ILLINOIS.

Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation at Chicago, October 24, 1907.

That everything is lovely in the Grand Chapter of Illinois is certified by the Committee on Grievances, which says:

> "Your Committee feels very proud to report to you that Royal Arch Masonry in this grand State is so well regulated that we have not a single complaint referred to your Committee.
>
> "We are certainly proud to represent one of the grandest institutions in the world."

The Grand High Priest's address recites his "transactions" for the year, among which he gathered in (not for personal use) the sum of $282.00 for all kinds of dispensations. And business was not very brisk in Illinois that year either.

He had occasion to render four decisions in answer to

questions put to him, all relating to the kind of headgear, sashes, and aprons to be worn in a Chapter. He shied at the first one, involving the momentous problem whether a sash should be worn in the Past Master's degree, and, if so, its color. He sought refuge in the Jurisprudence Committee, to which he referred the question. That august body, constituted to construe intricate questions of law, struggled with it for twenty-four hours, and reported that no sash is to be worn, but when it is worn its color should be purple.

Of the other three questions, two were decided correctly. Good average.

Concluding the address he said, "I have left many things for those who follow me to do," and, modestly admitting his mistakes, indulged the original hope that they would be attributed to his head, and not his heart. He was presented with a jewel, and told to take it home and wear it to the pleasure of his good wife.

The Grand Chapter is reported by its other officers to be in fine shape, financially and numerically. In point of numbers it is next below the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. "Correspondent" Warvelle indulges in comparative figures to encourage his Companions that with a little effort they may pass us for second place. His reservation is, however, "that is, if Barlow's figures don't lie." We are not acquainted with Barlow, nor do we know the reputation for veracity of Barlow's figures in the community where he resides; but if Barlow's figures are correctly quoted to represent the numerical strength of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania at the time Companion Warvelle used them, we must aver that Barlow's figures are somewhat devoid of truth. At any rate, the Grand Chapter of Illinois is a strong, progressive body, and we are pleased with such a rival. Are they progressive? Wait and see what they do with this:

"*To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois:*

"On the evening of October 18, 1907, Chicago Heights Chapter, No. 218, Royal Arch Masons, voted unanimously to instruct its Representatives to the Grand Chapter to present the following as an amendment to the By-Laws of the Order. As Amended, Section 4 to read:

" 'Every candidate for the Chapter degrees must be a Master Mason in good standing, a member of a Masonic Lodge, in no way engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liqours (except for medicinal purposes), and have resided in the State of Illinois one year next preceding the presentation of his petition, and in the territorial jurisdiction of the Chapter for ninety days.' "

On recommendation of a Committee it was postponed, to be put to a vote of the Grand Chapter next year.

Three hundred and twenty-five dollars was received back from the San Francisco Relief Fund. It was decided to hold it in the Grand Chapter treasury, subject to claims of contributors. It was no doubt the only way to dispose of the funds, on account of the difficulty of ascertaining the original donors and refunding their *pro rata* shares. But, as probably no claims will be made, the Grand Chapter is the richer on account of the calamity to San Francisco. " 'Tis an ill wind (or earthquake) that blows nobody good."

Companion Monroe C. Crawford, of Jonesboro, was elected and installed Grand High Priest. He evidently judged it necessary to make a declaration of independence, and in closing the Convocation said:

"Now my ambition is entirely satisfied, Companions. I have arrived at the highest place in the Grand Chapter. All I can state to you by way of promises is that while I am the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter I was born so that I have to be the man, and I will be the Grand High Priest and I will discharge the duties of this office to the very best of my ability. Again thanking you." (Applause.)

Companion George W. Warvelle presents his fifth Report on Correspondence, and at last reports from Chicago still

lives. Correspondents of certain other jurisdictions have not yet arrived in that city.

The manner in which he handles the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters is as conventional as a bull in a china shop.

He's funny.

He takes his turn, with others, with a jab at our Companion Williams for his decision on "physical perfection," and by implication scoffs at the idea that a deaf man should be excluded from a Chapter in Pennsylvania. Inferentially we conclude that deafness is not a bar in Illinois, and it does not matter whether a candidate hears the work or not. Maybe they communicate it in a sign language. He also has an earnest solicitude for the bald-headed candidate and other cripples in our bailiwick.

He finds in the inaugural address of Grand High Priest Meredith another proof of our "non-progression," and, commenting on the fact that we have eight Grand Chaplains, says, "It beats all how much religious supervision these Pennsylvanians need." His usual perspicacity deserts him. He ought to see that we are doing our best to be morally as well as physically perfect.

He finishes off his free-hand sketch of us with the following, to which we say, Amen:

"It grieves me sore, however, to note that Bates has dismounted from the tripod and that henceforth his voice will not be heard in the discussions at the round table. No more forceful, vigorous or polished writer has ever wielded the reviewer's pen, either in Pennsylvania or elsewhere, and no one has exhibited more uniform courtesy in discussions with his contemporaries. I know that a sigh of regret will go up from the entire Guild, while for myself I feel a keen sense of loss in his retirement. My constant prayer will be that he may again take up the work of the reviewer, for which he is so well qualified and which in the past he has so ably performed."

With all his breezy, diverting style, Companion Warvelle

has a serious vein. It is most in evidence in an Appendix to his Report called "Fragments," in which he discusses a number of live Capitular subjects. It is the best part of his Report. We should like to reprint much of it, but it costs money; the printer must be prepared to meet his pay roll, and so in these days of clearing-house certificates we restrain ourselves.

Monroe C. Crawford, Jonesboro, Grand High Priest.
Gilbert W. Barnard, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## INDIAN TERRITORY.

Eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter at El Reno, Oklahoma, April 16, 1907. Grand High Priest, William Henry Essex. About half the Chapters were represented.

The annual address of the Grand High Priest shows that he was animated with a strong endeavor to increase and strengthen the interests and mission of our institution in that jurisdiction.

We of the East probably do not appreciate the difficulties of effective organization in a comparatively new country. When, however, we scan the record now before us, and see the unselfish spirit and devotion to the Fraternity manifested by Companion Essex and his colleagues in this Grand Chapter, we are assured that only time and opportunity are needed to enable them to be "up with the procession." The indomitable energy and courage of our Western brethren always have found an outlet for activity in all directions, and the development of Masonic interests will not be behind in the wonderful progress that is bound to come to this young country, so richly blessed by nature.

Companion Essex's account of his three visits to Vinita, with a purpose of keeping alive the Chapter at that place, and his efforts to do so, the final surrender of its charter, and his suggestion that the Chapter's records and property be kept intact and ready to be returned, confident that its revival will be a matter of the near future, arrests the attention and confirms our belief that Capitular Masonry is in good hands in Oklahoma.

Among his decisions are the following:

"Can a Companion object to the advancement of a candidate, even if the candidate has received all of the degrees in the Chapter but the Royal Arch degree?

"*Answer.*—Yes, an objection is valid, when made by a Companion to the advancement of a Brother, if it is simply lodged as such with the High Priest, without any reason or grounds given therefor.

"2. Shall or must the Companion submit said objection in writing?

"*Answer.*—No. Communicated to the Excellent High Priest would have the same effect.

"3. Will these objections hold good if of a personal nature, or must they be for unmasonic conduct?

"*Answer.*—No. The Companion making the objections cannot be questioned by the Chapter, and his objections must be respected.

"4. How long do these objections hold, if not withdrawn?

"*Answer.*—Such objections should not hold more than six months without renewal. If the objections are of such a serious nature as to stop a candidate after he has taken the other degrees, charges should be preferred against him."

As this was approved by the Grand Chapter, there must be authority for it in their Constitution and laws. We refer to it merely to note the difference in our jurisdiction, where a candidate who has received the Mark degree cannot be denied advancement except as the result of charges against him. Reasons for our position have been stated repeatedly, and after long practice we are convinced our method is logical.

Among his recommendations we find this:

"I would recommend to the Grand Chapter that this jurisdiction be divided into three or four divisions, and District Deputies be used instead of a Lecturer chosen for this office, and those who are qualified to impart the work of the ritual that is issued by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and make it compulsory for each candidate to commit the several lectures to memory before he can be advanced.

"I find all kinds of keys are being used in Chapters, and when their attention is called to this fact you are met with the reply that 'We cannot get the rituals of the General Grand Chapter,' and when asked where the rituals are that belong to their Chapter, they do not know. I find that in some cases the Past High Priest has failed to turn them over to his successor in office, in other cases they have taken the rituals with them out of the country, and other cases where they claim they are so difficult to read they have laid them aside.

"Something should be done to remedy these conditions."

It was referred to a Special Committee, to report the next year.

Three new Chapters were created during the year and four more charters authorized at this Convocation. The total membership shows a good increase.

In noting the intelligent, energetic, and well-directed efforts of the Companions to advance Chapter Masonry in Indian Territory and Oklahoma, we must not overlook another enthusiastic worker, the Grand Secretary, M. E. Companion Joseph S. Murrow, who is also the Committee on Correspondence. He was their first Grand High Priest, and since then continuously the Grand Secretary. "What manner of man he is" is revealed by himself in his introduction to his Report on Correspondence:

"This is my thirteenth Report on Foreign Correspondence. No, I am not superstitious. This is the 'luckiest' year of my life, just as each succeeding year is 'luckier' than the one preceding; full of joy at being spared in health and strength to strive for the good in the best way that I know how, and happy in the knowledge that our beloved Craft throughout Christendom is marching onward and ever onward, with the spirit of

fraternal love and the uplift of mankind as the banner going on before. Yes, this is my 'lucky thirteenth' Report."

The conclusion of his Report is also interesting. We reproduce it for the benefit of our Pennsylvania Companions who may wish to find "greener fields and pastures new."

"Perhaps before this year closes there will be a new State born, a new star on Old Glory, the biggest and richest baby ever born into Uncle Sam's family—a State with over a million of people and with the richest resources, perhaps, of any in the entire sisterhood. Hurrah for Oklahoma!

"Fifty years ago I came to this Territory, a land then unknown and unsought. Now it is gridironed with railroads and dotted with cities and towns; punctured with coal mines and oil and gas wells; rich in farms, schools and churches; a thrifty, progressive population. And there are a handful of Indians to whom the country was given by the most sacred pledges of the General Government. It also has more grafters than any country of its size in the world. If you want to move, Companion Correspondents, come to Oklahoma, but don't come to graft."

We congratulate our Brethren and the people of the State of Oklahoma that their hopes have been realized. They start with some advanced ideas in State government, but we do not expect our Brethren will introduce to us any startling innovations in Masonry. Good luck to Oklahoma and the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory!

Robert Y. Morrison, Atoka, Grand High Priest.

Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## INDIANA.

Sixty-second Annual Convocation, October 23, 1907, at Indianapolis.

In his address Grand High Priest Philemon H. Clugston speaks of their six per cent. increase in membership as "neither a boom nor a depression, but a continuation of good healthy growth." He discourages an "aggressive

extension policy" in establishing new Chapters, believing that when the time is ripe there will be requests for such organizations.

From one of his decisions we learn that in Indiana a Companion's standing in the Chapter is not affected by non-affiliation with the blue Lodge.

Like others, when he entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office he had a well-defined purpose to visit Chapters, the best way in which a Grand High Priest can inform himself of local conditions, and by his personal attention and presence encourage the Chapters, but—well, he didn't. He believes, however, that they should have thorough inspection, and now that a revised, uniform ritual is to be adopted he says:

"And yet, Companions, I am more than ever convinced that we need some efficient, adequate and systematic form of inspection and instruction, to the end that the approved work may be taught and practiced in each subordinate Chapter, that uniformity may be maintained, that innovations and practices not in harmony with the spirit of Masonry may be discouraged, and that a spirit of generous emulation may be fostered.

"There is no opportunity for an aggressive extension policy. Let us turn our attention toward internal improvement and endeavor to build up the Chapters within our jurisdiction until we can show the best organized, best officered, most efficient and intelligent body of Royal Arch Masons within the General Grand Jurisdiction."

He also calls attention to great carelessness and deficiency in recording marks.

The Committee on Jurisprudence took up these matters, and on their report it was determined to appoint as Inspector of Chapters the Grand Chaplain, who, it seems, visits each town in which a Chapter is located, so that there will be no expense except additional hotel bills. He is to receive $500.00 for his services for the first year.

The Report on Correspondence is by Past Grand High Priest Simeon S. Johnson. He was Grand High Priest

thirty years ago and, although a veteran, his vigor and interest in the Fraternity have suffered no diminution, if we can safely judge from this Report. We like his aggressive, straightforward manner. This is a sample: Recounting the efforts of the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory to prevent the rough usage of candidates, he says:

"If this action will stop the abominable and disreputable practices of some Chapters at time of the conferring of Royal Arch degree, well and good. We doubt if it does. The charter of every Chapter indulging in such acts ought to be arrested and every Companion guilty ought to be suspended. High Priests countenancing such disreputable acts ought to be removed. Masonry teaches nothing of this. Candidates are entitled to Masonic treatment, and to be treated as gentlemen and with all courtesy."

And here is how he punctures our conceit, reviewing our Proceedings for 1906:

"Correspondence report is interesting reading, but we are all the time reminded, if not directly, in an indirect way, that 'our way is the only' simon pure work."

If our estimate of the broadmindedness and genial tolerance of Companion Johnson did not convince us of the contrary, we should suspect that the above emanated from the kind of man whose diet consists largely of peanuts.

As has been frequently said by this Committee, its reports are primarily intended for the information and advice of the Chapter Masons of our own jurisdiction. True, copies of them come under the eyes of similar Committees of other jurisdictions, which, almost without exception, consist of one person in each, and he one who has an extended vision of the Masonic world. Far be it from our purpose to impose upon him our views or ways. Neither do we stipulate what use he shall make of our reports, but certainly we do not expect them to be circulated among the Companions of his

jurisdiction. Therefore, we are not attempting to teach or to lead "foreign" Companions in Capitular thought or practice.

In speaking to our own Companions, we claim the privilege of "confidential communication in the family"—to make comparisons, to criticise with a kindly spirit, and to appropriate what we find praiseworthy in others. We do not claim superiority except in those things which pertain to our own environment and experience. Nor do we claim perfection. New problems are arising every day, and we are endeavoring to solve them to our advantage and improvement. But we have the experience of 111 years behind us, and in the sifting and boiling process we could not help arriving at a state of organization and success that gratifies us and distinguishes our Grand Chapter.

After all, in the essentials of our institution, in matters of substance, rules and regulations founded on common sense and accepted everywhere, especially in the ancient landmarks, customs and usages, there can be no material difference between our body and any other, only as some individual, through ignorance, may corrupt and divert them. In which event, whether at home or abroad, it is the duty of all of us, without fear, to point out the errors, to criticise, and urge our Companions to avoid them. Unfortunately we are called upon to do this too often.

It is in matters of form we may honestly differ and go our several ways. And this Committee, viewing the procedure of other Grand Chapters, reserves the right to contrast their ways with our ways, and to say to the Companions of Pennsylvania, "Their ways are not our ways; we prefer our own." And when Companion Johnson overhears such remarks, even though they relate to the Grand Chapter of Indiana, which, by the way, is distinguished for doing

almost all things right, he must accord to us the right of every American citizen to express his views and opinions freely in the family circle.

Edgar H. Bristol, Salem, Grand High Priest.

Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## IOWA.

Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, at Fort Dodge, October 3, 1907.

The first thought we have upon taking up this copy of Proceedings is that here is a very efficient Grand Secretary. He ought to be, if twenty years of continuous service in that office is long enough to cultivate efficiency, and he must be to have been retained so long. What first suggested the thought was, that within about a month and a half after the session of the Grand Chapter a copy of the Proceedings reaches us, through our Grand Secretary's office. Rather quick work. Our estimate is confirmed also by his report to the Grand Chapter. A Committee passing upon it and the Grand Treasurer's said, "They are models of excellence and conciseness, and we compliment these time-tried officials on their proficiency and skill."

The Grand High Priest's address announces the death of Thomas Bigelow Lacey, Grand High Priest in 1901.

What he considers the most profitable move in Capitular Masonry in Iowa for many years was the work and reports of specially appointed Inspectors of the Chapters, pursuant to directions of the Grand Chapter the preceding year. He had divided the Chapters into thirty districts, and of the 128 Chapters 103 had been visited and inspected. The reports furnished a fund of information about Chapter affairs and conditions that apparently was not in the possession of the

Grand Chapter officers before. It was revealed that many Chapter officers had been "preparing themselves by the use of illegitimate and unauthorized ciphers."

"The work was poorly done in twelve of the Chapters inspected, fairly in thirty-eight, and well done in forty-six; twenty-three own their own rooms; all but ten have good working outfits, including robes and other paraphernalia. In answer to the question as to future prospects, nearly all of them report 'good,' and especially since this inspection has aroused them and made the officers of the Chapters feel that the Grand Chapter was looking after them."

Investigation of the reports also prompted the following excellent thoughts:

"With two of these Chapters, at least, the real worth of Royal Arch Masonry does not obtain; the price to be paid for the degrees seems to be of more moment than the great truths that are to be imparted, and the sublime teachings that appeal to the noblest sentiments that are stirred in the human breast. History and fiction hold characters that stand out in bold relief from their fellows and awaken in the student and the reader an ambition to travel along the great highway of human attainments, and by a prudent and diligent use of the powers wrapped up in each soul to do and be what the great God had planned. Nowhere have I found characters that present such perfect humility, such enduring patience, such persevering patriotism, such heroic fidelity to duty which held out to them no hope of fee or reward, except in our ancient prototypes, those Most Excellent Masters, whose humility caused them, though capable of doing the highest service, to gladly do the lowest; whose patience endured the servitude to foreign masters, and unmurmuring traveled the rough and rugged roads in the long, toilsome journey, upheld and cheered and stimulated even to the end by that undying love of home and native land, and which brought them back not to rest and pleasure and abundance, but to that duty which could be done only by the giving all they had left of life and consecrating it to the rebuilding of their city and the temple of the great Jehovah.

"The degrees of the Chapter are not cheap, and I believe that when a Companion has been 'exalted,' it should be so in fact, and from that moment he should be proud of the title of Companion. I expect this will be one of the good things that shall come out of a regular inspection."

There can be no question that the continuance of a regular

system of inspection, such as was adopted, or like that of our District Deputies, will bring good results to them.

The conclusion of his address is good reading:

"This world is a glorious place to live in—the creation of infinite love and fatherhood for his beloved; the aspirations of the human heart at its best estate is toward divinity. We have seen the temple in our Masonic life completed, which was to be the dwelling place of the presence of Jehovah; that temple, at the best, could but be temporary; but you and I, Companions, are building a temple that may be the eternal dwelling place of God. No one else may use our Mark; the work must be our own. Is there any limit, then, you would put upon the grandeur of the structure you would build? Capitular Masonry points you to the perfect structure, to the one when completed that shall be consecrated by the approving presence of the Supreme Architect of the Universe. I can admonish you to nothing more sublime."

Reports of Committees show careful, thorough and trained attention to the several matters committed to their investigation.

It appears that a Committee had been appointed to prepare a new ritual to be reported at this Convocation. The work had progressed toward completion when, after a conference with some of the leading Companions of the Grand Chapter, it was deemed advisable to submit to the Grand Chapter the question whether the ritual of the General Grand Chapter should not be adopted. The work on the ritual then stopped, and the Committee gives these facts as reasons why they are not ready to present a complete report. Among other things the Committee said:

"The matter of changing our ritual to conform to that of the General Grand Chapter is not a new one, having been agitated more or less in the past. In 1902, when this Grand Chapter amended Section 35 of Chapter VI of the laws of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, authorizing the Board of Custodians 'to prepare for their official use four identical correctly extended copies of the work of the jurisdiction,' the writer suggested that instead of doing so it might be a favorable time for us to consider the advisability of falling in line and adopting the ritual promulgated by the General Grand Chapter

of the United States, to which we owe allegiance. On making the matter known in an informal way, it was discovered that considerable sentiment existed among some of the older and more influential members of this Grand Chapter in favor of retaining a ritual that had been in use for half a century. Finding such a sentiment existed the subject was dropped.

"It is not the province of your Committee to give any reasons for suggesting the change. That may be done by others. This report is to inform you what has been accomplished by the Committee, and to give the reasons for not having the work ready for distribution at this meeting."

The Committee on Grand High Priest's Address also referred to the subject as follows:

"Your Committee recommend the approval of the action of the Grand High Priest in 'causing the work to cease' in the matter of preparing a cipher copy of our ritual, as was directed by this Grand Chapter at its last annual Convocation. The Most Excellent entered upon the performance of this duty earnestly and conscientiously. The motive assigned for discontinuing the work cannot be questioned, and the reasons given are weighty and cannot consistently be overlooked. The delving of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest developed the fact that throughout the general Grand Jurisdiction there is a growing sentiment in favor of uniformity of work. As there is to be a full report of the Committee, we make no further recommendations, but will say that we, too, love the old landmarks, and our affection for the Iowa work is supreme; yet we cannot but coincide with the thought that if the cause of Capitular Masonry can be advanced, we ought not to permit our personal feelings or interests to intervene."

Although the proceedings before us do not disclose it, we infer there was much earnest discussion of the subject. It was finally disposed of by this resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Committee on Ritual be continued for one year, and it is hereby authorized and instructed to report at our next Convocation a ritual in cipher, to be acted upon by this Grand Body."

Appearances would lead us to infer that the General Grand Chapter came out "second best." If so, it is another illustration of how the constituent members of the General Grand Chapter keep one another at arm's length.

Report on Correspondence, by Companion William F. Cleveland, exhibits a wide investigation of movements in the Capitular world. It covers the recent proceedings of nearly all the Grand Chapters of this and foreign countries. He finds that "we are all moved by the same impulses and animated by the same desires to improve the conditions of our fellow-men and bring them to a full realization of the eternal truths that our Fraternity teaches."

He pays a tribute to our Companion Bates, and joins with other correspondents in regrets that his valuable services are lost to our Committee. We can assure him that no one feels this loss more than our Companions of Pennsylvania who read these reports. Companion Bates is one who is thoroughly imbued with the lofty principles of our Fraternity; he has made a close study of its history; he has a broad and comprehensive view of its activities; and while loyal to the interests of our own Grand Chapter, his mind and heart are big enough to accord to the Companions of other jurisdictions a full share of credit for the work we are all engaged in, of making our institution a force in the elevation of human society. That he will be seen or heard no more in these pages, we have no doubt, will cause sincere regret to all who are familiar with his masterful treatment of Capitular subjects.

Companion Cleveland refers to us as "a grand old jurisdiction," and thinks we ought to be a part of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Well, Companion, we don't know whether there has been a sufficient wooing, or that we have ever been asked, but we will always be a sister to you just the same.

William H. Norris, Manchester, Grand High Priest.

Alfred Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## KANSAS.

Forty-second Annual Convocation at Wichita, February 18, 1907. Total attendance, 168; Chapters represented, 66 out of 84.

The annual address of the Grand High Priest, Edward W. Waynant, is of great length, and no doubt of much interest to the Companions of the jurisdiction. He found some way of keeping in touch with the subordinate Chapters, although not by personal visitations, which were very few. He repeats the "oft told story":

"It was my well-formed and resolved purpose one year ago to devote a considerable portion of my time visiting the subordinate Chapters of the State, but the nature of my business engagements," etc., etc.

That he appreciates the value of personal official supervision is attested by the following:

"My observation and investigation of our Chapters during the year leads me to believe that some systematic visitation, partaking of the nature of a thorough and complete business inspection and investigation, and from which no Chapter should be exempt, should be formulated by this Grand Chapter, that will give its Grand Officers a more complete and satisfactory knowledge of the physical condition of our subordinate Chapters. On account of the vast extent of territory to be covered in this jurisdiction, it is almost an impossibility for the Grand High Priest thus to visit any considerable number of these Chapters. If the District Deputy system should not be deemed feasible at this time, then the most practicable course to pursue would be for such inspection to be made by the Grand Lecturer, requiring Chapters thus visited to exemplify the work in some one of the degrees, make an examination of their records, and such other inspection as might be deemed of importance, making due report thereof to the Grand High Priest in such manner as may be prescribed by him. The traveling expenses thus incurred to be borne by the Grand Chapter, and the local expenses to be paid by the local Chapter.

"I would like to recommend that this subject be duly considered at this Convocation, and such appropriation made by this Grand Body as in its wisdom is necessary to carry out the suggestions herein presented."

This was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reported as follows, the report being adopted:

"We concur in the opinion of the M. E. Grand High Priest that every Chapter within this jurisdiction should have a thorough business inspection of its affairs, but we believe that duty devolves upon the Committee on Finance in each Chapter, which should submit to their respective Chapters an annual statement of the condition of the finances and property of the Chapter. We do not believe it wise, however, to impose a tax upon this Grand Chapter and the Chapters within its jurisdiction, a very large majority of which are credited with 'good work, true work and square work,' and are annually complimented for their prompt annual returns to the Grand Secretary. In order to revive and stimulate a very few dormant Chapters, it is within the prerogative of the M. E. Grand High Priest to take all necessary steps in the interest of such Chapters.

"We believe that the dignity, individuality and Masonic character of the Chapters will be better preserved and promoted by accrediting to them the ability to manage the affairs of their respective Chapters, in obedience to the laws of this Grand Chapter, without interference by inspectors, until such time as they have proven their inability to maintain that dignified, fraternal relation of loyalty to this Grand Chapter. We therefore recommend that action on an inspection system be indefinitely postponed."

The Committee's views about the "dignity, individuality and Masonic character of the Chapters" sounds well, but official inspection after they have "proven their inability to maintain that dignified, fraternal relation of loyalty to this Grand Chapter" appears like "locking the barn after the horse is stolen." We would like to recommend the District Deputy system as an effective and least expensive remedy.

One of their Chapters is reported to have conferred no degrees for more than six years, although carrying on its rolls several elected candidates who were ready and anxious to receive the work; that no annual meeting had been held for the election and installation of officers since 1904. Such a condition should be impossible, with or without an inspection system, but a District Deputy would have insured against it.

The reports of Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are full and complete. We commend the practice of furnishing advance copies of officers' reports to Committees which pass upon them, so that sufficient time enables the Committees to investigate them.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Companion William M. Shaver. It is a comprehensive review of the whole Capitular field in the United States and Canada. The Proceedings of Pennsylvania for 1905 receives due attention. He criticises us for not recognizing the Grand Chapter of Western Australia, and for wasting time in completing the Books of Marks in the Chapters. Of the latter, he says, he can think of several subjects of more practical benefit. Send them on, Companion Shaver, and we will consider them.

William Frank March, Lawrence, Grand High Priest.

William M. Shaver, Topeka, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## KENTUCKY.

Ninetieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, October 15, 1907, at Louisville, Grand High Priest Henry Hopson Holeman presiding.

The volume of Proceedings is embellished with the portrait of the very good-looking Grand High Priest, and with several interior views of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home at Louisville, of which the Brethren of Kentucky are, and ought to be, justly proud for the good work it is doing. This and the Old Masons Home are of absorbing interest to the Masons of that State, and are conspicuous among similar institutions for successful management.

A notable feature of the Convocation was the presence of

sixteen of the nineteen living Past Grand High Priests. One of them was Grand High Priest forty-eight years ago.

The address of the Grand High Priest, Companion Holeman, presents several decisions construing the laws of the jurisdiction, one of which discloses a very good regulation relating to the institution of new Chapters. It provides that before the Chapter may be instituted, some existing Chapter shall certify to the competency of the officers selected for the proposed Chapter. On the principle that the success of all new movements depends upon the way they start, this is a good thing. Of course it is assumed that a Grand High Priest would not permit unqualified or incompetent officers to be installed in a new Chapter, if the facts were brought to his attention; but this plan puts the burden of proof on the new Chapter, makes a condition precedent, and assures the Grand High Priest that the Chapter begins with the right official equipment.

He defends the practice of liberal dispensations in Kentucky to ballot on petitions within the time prescribed by the law. This is his argument:

"There has been some criticism of the number of dispensations granted annually by Grand High Priests in Kentucky to subordinate Chapters, authorizing balloting on petitions within less than the time prescribed by law except when under dispensation. But when it is remembered that membership in a Masonic Lodge is a condition precedent to membership in a Chapter in Kentucky, and is essential to eligibility to Capitular Masonry, and when, further, it is remembered that the duty of segregation is devolved upon the Lodge, the objections, I think, lose their force. I should strenuously object to any modification of the stringent rule prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, which requires a lunar month to intervene between the reception of a petition and ballot thereon, and the same time to elapse between the conferring of degrees, which provision of law is not subject to the dispensing power. For the reason, therefore, that such care is exercised in the selection of the only class from which can come the candidates for Capitular Masonry, the necessity for stringent regulations by the Grand Chapter for the accom-

plishment of the same results does not exist. In my opinion, any Mason who is worthy to be advanced from the first or second degree is worthy, when he has attained the Master's degree, of admission to the Chapter; and the sooner he takes the step, the better will it be for him and the Order.

"Ordinarily when a petition is received, there is a small per cent. of the members present, and when the ballot is taken a month later, some of them, with possibly a few others, determine the election or rejection of the candidate, while the major part of the membership knows nothing whatever of the petition. But when a dispensation is granted to shorten the probationary period of the petition, the law requires that every member shall have due notice of the name of the candidate and the time when a ballot will be spread. Of the two methods, the one that informs all the membership as to who desires to receive the degrees, and when the ballot will be cast, seems to be better than to let the matter be determined often by a bare quorum.

"Entertaining these views, I look on the numerous applications for such dispensations as betokening an active and healthy condition of the Craft. Permit me to add only this: These remarks have been prompted by adverse criticisms of several of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence. For that reason I have felt constrained to state the reason why such dispensations are viewed with favor by Grand High Priests of Kentucky, and why they are seldom refused. The constitutional provision under which they are issued provides ample safeguards."

This is a treatment of the subject from a novel standpoint. Because a man is a Master Mason he is, for that reason, eligible and desirable as a member of the Chapter, and therefore he should be hustled into the Chapter as soon as possible! Why not merge the Chapter degrees into the Blue Lodge, and be done with it?

We cannot assent to the proposition. The Chapter is a separate and distinct organization, and the same safeguards must be thrown about it as the Blue Lodge or any other. Assuming that due inquiry and investigation have been made of the character and eligibility of an applicant for admission into the Blue Lodge, and as soon as possible after becoming a Master Mason he applies for admission into the Chapter, it may be conceded that standing the Blue Lodge

test should weigh in his favor at the door of the Chapter. The chance of a change in his qualifications is reduced to a minimum. But we do not believe that Master Masons, as a rule, make such great haste to join the other bodies. And it is well that they do not, wherein we respectfully differ from the judgment of Companion Holeman. Better for them to pause and take the necessary time to absorb, digest and appreciate the first and most important lessons of Masonry before engaging the mind with new ones. There is too much superficial knowledge in the Craft. Our regulation in Pennsylvania is a good one, making it impossible for a Master Mason to join the Chapter until after a period of six months from the time he was raised.

As Master Masons are human and, like all men, liable to err, in spite of Masonic teaching and culture, the same scrutiny must be observed, the same questions asked of their qualifications and fitness, when they come to the Chapter.

But we are afraid Companion Holeman is not consistent. His opinion, that "any Mason who is worthy to be advanced from the first or second degree is worthy . . . . of admission to the Chapter," is followed by an argument for the dispensation as against the regular method in the Chapter, because it requires notice to the members "as to who desire to receive the degrees and when the ballot will be cast," presumably that the members may have an opportunity to reject undesirable applicants. And in this we are surprised to learn that in Kentucky notice is not given to the members of the Chapter when, in the regular course of procedure, a petition lies over for the statutory period for ballot. We think this a more serious departure from good practice than a too frequent use of the dispensation. Why notice should be given in one case and not in the other, we

do not understand. Companion Holeman is quite right when he says, "Of the two methods, the one that informs all the members as to who desires to receive the degrees and when the ballot will be cast, seems to be better than to let the matter be determined often by a bare quorum." Eliminate the question of dispensation and consider only whether notice to all the members shall be given of all petitions, it appears that Companion Holeman would be with us in the affirmative.

Whereas we could not agree with him that the dispensation is justified on the grounds of intimate relation between Lodge and Chapter, yet we are inclined to think he vindicates its usefulness, in Kentucky, on the grounds of notice to the Chapter members. As this, in our judgment, is of paramount importance, and no provision is made for informing the Chapter members "as to who desires to receive the degrees, etc.," then we admit that the dispensation cannot be too frequent—in Kentucky.

In the Grand Secretary's report appears a notice from the Grand Chapter of Virginia, assuming jurisdiction of any applicant for Chapter degrees who resides in the States of Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina or West Virginia, but nearer, "by the usual mode of travel," to any Chapter in Virginia than one in his own State. It also accords to the States mentioned jurisdiction in similar cases; that is, if the applicant lives in Virginia, but nearest to a Chapter in one of the other States. On report of the Committee on Jurisprudence the notice was accepted and, we infer, the arrangement acquiesced in by the Kentucky Companions. We doubt not that such "border jurisdiction," or reciprocity, is based on substantial and plausible reasons, but great care will have to be exercised in its operation to avoid complications.

Through the Committee on Necrology we learn of the death of Companion David Pliny Robb, Grand High Priest in 1874, and a very distinguished Mason in other branches.

We note the attendance of our Brother Warren LaRue Thomas, of Pittsburgh, who is a Past Grand High Priest of the Kentucky Grand Chapter. He installed the Grand Officers elect and appointed. Companion Thomas is so well and favorably known in Pennsylvania, as a Mason and a Templar, that he seems quite "one of us"; but his "Old Kentucky Home" evidently has allurements for him that he cannot resist.

Companion W. W. Clarke favors us with the Report on Correspondence, which contains "all the news" from Pennsylvania for 1906. He quotes in full our Companion Williams' decision on "physical perfection" and says:

> "We are of the opinion that the Grand High Priest would have some difficulty in establishing the proposition that 'physical perfection is a Landmark,' so far as it relates to Capitular Masonry. And we must respectfully question the statement that 'the history and symbolism of the Royal Arch degree demand physical perfection to the fullest extent,' or at all."

We should be glad to give Companion Clarke a further hearing on the subject.

This decision has attracted general attention from the reviewers. Some have reproduced it without comment, evidently as a matter of information to their Companions; some, while apparently assenting to it, as a matter of law, doubt its practical application; others dissent from it entirely, as in the case of Companion Clarke. It is a fundamental question, and we would like to see the General Grand Chapter, if there is any genuine cohesion in that body and it has any authority, to take it up for exhaustive investigation. It will not do for the Solons of our sister

Grand Chapters to dispose of the subject lightly, with levity, or with vulgarity as in one case, but get together, Companions of the General Grand Chapter, and if you can agree on anything, try your hands at that.

George A. Lewis, Frankfort, Grand High Priest.

Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## LOUISIANA.

Sixtieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter at New Orleans, February 5, 1907. Grand High Priest, Robert R. Reid. All of the twenty-five Chapters of the jurisdiction were represented.

The Grand High Priest's annual address is brief, presenting nothing of special interest. He reports harmony and prosperity in the jurisdiction.

Reports of other officers and Committees involved only routine matters.

It appears that in 1905 provision was made to procure and present jewels to the Past Grand High Priests. In 1906 it was determined "to confine the gift to those who have continued to evince their interest in Capitular Masonry by attendance upon its Convocations for the past five years." The Grand Secretary now announces that he had procured the jewels and presented them to twelve Companions, naming them. By reference to the list of Past Grand Officers it appears that three still living were denied the honor of receiving the jewels. One was Grand High Priest in 1877, another in 1879, and the other in 1881 and 1882. While we do not perhaps understand all the surrounding circumstances that controlled the motive for discriminating against the three apparently aged Companions, our first impulse is to think that maybe there was some

want of charitableness in this action. We presume, however, there was some good reason for it, besides non-attendance upon the Grand Chapter Convocations.

Apparently there is much variation in the ritual work among the Chapters, therefore the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS, It will redound to the best interests of this M. E. Grand Chapter that the work in all constituent Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction be uniform; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the Committee on Work of this Grand Chapter be and is hereby authorized to prepare and submit, for the approval of the Grand Council of this Grand Chapter, the esoteric work of the four Capitular degrees. Such work, when approved by the Grand Council, shall be known as the work of the M. E. the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, R. A. M., and it shall be adopted by each constituent Chapter of this Grand Jurisdiction to disseminate such work and such only."

It was also agreed to open a School of Instruction to teach the correct work.

A resolution was offered to appropriate $150.00 toward a suitable tomb in the Masonic cemetery as a memorial of Companion Samuel Manning Todd, who was Grand High Priest in 1868 and 1869. It was referred to the Finance Committee, which reported against it for the reason of insufficient funds in the treasury.

Correspondence Report is from the pen of M. E. Companion Herman C. Duncan, as before. Our Proceedings for 1905 received his attention. He and our Companion Bates, who had reviewed the Proceedings of Louisiana in previous years, have been discussing and comparing certain ceremonies in their Grand Chapters. In order to better understand each other Companion Duncan says:

"We see no solution, unless Companion Bates would arrange for an oral conference, and we therefore extend to him a cordial invitation to come to see us."

The writer, as a substitute for Companion Bates on this Committee, does not presume that the invitation is transferred to him as such substitute, and we hope that Companion Bates may avail himself of it. For fear he may not, however, the writer will endeavor to straighten out, for the benefit of Companion Duncan, another Pennsylvania regulation discussed by him and Companion Bates, hoping that he may be able to do so without oral conference. It relates to our "test ballot."

Companion Duncan quotes Companion Bates as follows:

"Comp. Bates has this to say in respect to their 'test ballot':

" 'We seem to be at cross purposes in this matter of balloting and black-balling. Let us see if we can clear the matter up.

" 'The ballot-box is prepared and the vote cast. The Scribe announces that the balls are not all white, and is confirmed by the King, who finds the ballot not in favor of the applicant. At this point, and before the final announcement of the result by the High Priest, if it shall appear that a mistake has been made, or it is assumed that such a mistake has been made, a test ballot may be ordered to demonstrate the fact. If this ballot is clear, the result, of course, is so announced. The second, not the first, is the 'test' ballot. No space is taken up on the minutes, as only the final action is recorded.' "

Companion Duncan then says:

"We thank him for this very clear explanation, for it enables us to say that the Pennsylvania and the Louisiana practices are practically identical. The only difference is that Pennsylvania calls a second ballot a test ballot, and Louisiana calls a second ballot a second ballot. With us, as with them, it is a test to ascertain if a single black ballot found on first ballot was intentionally cast. We have no second ballot if two black balls appear on the first ballot. The object of the second ballot is to prevent an unintentional injustice being done the candidate."

Now, my dear Companion Duncan, be it understood that Companion Bates was explaining the meaning of our "test ballot" only. He was not considering what we term our "second ballot." He followed the *modus operandi* to the

point where "the ballot is clear" and the candidate is approved. Now we will assume that on the test ballot one or more black balls are again deposited. The candidate is then declared rejected. But if a candidate be black-balled, and whether or not a test ballot be taken, which is discretionary with the High Priest, if his proposer or friend desires further action on the petition, our Constitution provides:

"In case of a rejection upon a ballot, a second ballot upon the petition may be had, provided that the motion therefor shall be made at the same meeting or a subsequent stated meeting held within six months after the rejection. Such motion shall lie over until the next or some subsequent stated meeting, not exceeding three months thereafter, and if the motion is adopted, the second ballot must be had at the next stated meeting after the adoption of the resolution, notice thereof being sent to the members."

That is what we call a "second ballot." And if the candidate be again rejected on this second ballot on his first petition, he may, under certain regulations, present a second, a third, and a fourth petition, but on these no second ballot may be taken.

The "test ballot" may be applied to all ballots, and Companion Duncan is quite right as to its uses, viz., to inform the High Priest whether a black ball has been cast through accident or inadvertence. But he will now see that in this jurisdiction the "second ballot" means something quite different.

L. E. Thomas, Shreveport, Grand High Priest.

Richard Lambert, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

T. F. P.

## MAINE.

Eighty-second Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, at Portland, May 7, 1907, presided over by Deputy Grand High Priest Edwin A. Porter.

Fifty-five of the fifty-nine Chapters were represented.

On account of the indisposition of the Grand High Priest, he had not prepared an address or report.

Reports were submitted by the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe and the District Deputies, describing their official visitations to the Chapters, in which conditions were found to be satisfactory.

The transactions of the session were entirely routine.

Report on Correspondence, by Companion Herbert Harris, covers pretty much the whole field of the Fraternity, and is, as usual, very interesting reading. In his review of our Proceedings of 1906, he has this to say of Grand High Priest J. Henry Williams' decision on "physical perfection."

"If the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania see fit to bind themselves to the letter of the law, they are within their rights, but who is willing to say that they actually live up to these emphatic asseverations? How do they ascertain that a candidate is physically perfect? Does he have a careful examination by a physician who certifies that he has not 'the slightest maim, blemish or defect'? Of how many men in Pennsylvania would that be true? 'There are no degrees in physical perfection.' The slightest defect or irregularity of vision, the least decay of a tooth or loss of a hair must debar a man from all Pennsylvania Lodges. If all their candidates are literally 'perfect' at the time of their reception, a parade of the initiates of one year would be a sight for the gods; and it is hoped that the Correspondence Committee will tell us next year how this perfection is insured."

He quoted only a part of the decision. For the information of his Companions it might have been well to have incorporated the whole of it, showing upon what authorities it is based. As to how nearly the initiates of our Chapters conform to the rule, as expounded by our Grand High Priest, is another proposition. But if, as suggested by Companion Harris, they could be paraded before him, we think he would be surprised to see how hard we are trying, and with what success, to apply that law. The

question, however, is, What is the law? Is our Grand High Priest right? We infer that Companion Harris believes that he is, but that the law is one of that kind, like the Maine State prohibition law, which some persons think is better observed in its breaking or bending. We must leave that for the Grand Chapter of Maine to determine for herself.

Companion Harris requires information touching another decision of our Grand High Priest. He says:

"Among Comp. Williams' decisions is the following:

"'There is no duty imposed upon the officers of a Chapter to notify candidates to appear to receive degrees. It is the duty of the candidate to present himself within six months after his approval, otherwise all proceedings on his petition are at an end, and he must present a new petition.'

"It is to be supposed that a candidate is notified of his election, and notified as to when meetings will be held; but, even then, is he obliged to run the risk of presenting himself, perhaps repeatedly, and finding the Chapter busy with other candidates and unable to attend to his case?"

We beg to assure him, in respect to the above, that our candidates have no trouble and very little inconvenience. There is always some one, a member of the Chapter, sufficiently interested in the candidate to see that he presents himself at the proper time.

Edwin A. Porter, Pittsfield, Grand High Priest.

Stephen Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## MARYLAND, 1906.

The One Hundred and Ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland was held in Masonic Temple in the city of Baltimore, Thursday, November 22, 1906. There were present all the Grand Officers, ten Past Grand High Priests, one Past Grand Captain of the Host, Representatives of twenty subordinate

Chapters, thirty-two Past High Priests, Representatives to twenty-six Grand Chapters, and a large number of Royal Arch Masons in good standing, which latter were admitted in accordance with a resolution regularly adopted.

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form, and the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the usual Standing Committees, after which the officers-elect of the subordinate Chapters were installed by the Grand High Priest, assisted by the other Grand Officers. The Grand High Priest extended a cordial welcome to the twenty-six Grand Representatives who were present, and suggested that they each write letters to the Grand Chapters they represented and advise them of the doings of this Annual Convocation, after which he delivered his address, opening as follows:

"COMPANIONS:—We have again assembled around the altar at the close of another Capitular year, the one hundred and ninth of this Grand Chapter; have offered up our devotions to Almighty God, and rendered thanks for his loving kindness and tender mercy, which have been round about us during all the years of our pilgrimage.

"I bid you each and all a cordial and fraternal welcome to this Annual Convocation, trusting that the brief account of my stewardship which I purpose to give will meet with approbation, and that your deliberations may result in further promoting the advancement and prosperity of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction.

"But one member of this Grand Chapter has been taken from us by death during the year, Companion Theodore B. Fox, Past High Priest of Phœnix Chapter, No. 7. Many of our sister jurisdictions however, have been called to mourn the departure of illustrious Companions.

"I recommend that memorial pages be placed in our Proceedings in tender memory of the virtues of these departed Companions.

"A few more years shall roll,
A few more seasons come,
And we shall be with those that rest
Asleep within the tomb.

"A few more storms shall beat
On this wild, rocky shore,
And we shall be where tempests cease
And surges swell no more.

"A few more struggles here,
A few more partings o'er,
A few more toils, a few more tears
And we shall weep no more."

The record of the Grand High Priest for visitations is commendable, having visited officially, with some of the other Grand Officers present on each occasion, sixteen of the twenty-two Chapters of the jurisdiction, and they were always "cordially welcomed and hospitably entertained," referring to which visits the Grand High Priest remarks:

"Where work was done it was for the most part correctly and impressively rendered. With perhaps one exception, all the Chapters appeared to be thoroughly alive and enjoying their share of the general prosperity. I am a firm believer in the good results of these official visitations, and commend to the early attention of my successor the five Chapters which I was unable to visit."

The prerogative of granting dispensations was exercised carefully and judiciously, and the reasons given for the granting of each, we think, were ample and justified the action of the Grand High Priest.

Under the head of "Decisions" we find:

"On January 6, the High Priest of Enoch Chapter requested a decision as to the proper method of making a report by the Committee on an application for membership. On January 10, I replied that as there was no provision in the Constitution or Standing Resolutions of the Grand Chapter governing this matter, the same method should be followed as in the Blue Lodge; that is, the Committee should report orally, and not in writing, and no record should be made as to whether the report was favorable or unfavorable. Also that this was the proper course, whether the report was on a petition for the degrees or for affiliation."

Which, in our opinion, is not a good practice, and we seri-

ously question whether such decision would stand in the Grand Chapter of this jurisdiction, the custom being that the report of the Committee shall be in writing, and a proper record made accordingly in the minutes of the subordinate Chapter, regardless of whether the report is favorable or unfavorable.

Another decision of importance, and with which we agree, is found in the following:

"On January 17, the High Priest of Mt. Vernon Chapter wrote me regarding a Companion who had been suspended by his Lodge and the facts reported to the Chapter.

"He said that contention was made that it was not proper for the High Priest to announce the suspension to the Chapter, or have a record made of the cause until the expiration of six months, and that he was not suspended until the end of that time. The High Priest decided that the Companion stood suspended in the Chapter from the time he was suspended in the Lodge, and that it was the duty of the High Priest to report it and have a record made at once.

"I informed him that his decision was correct, as his suspension by the Lodge was immediate, and the 'probation' of six months related solely to the manner of reinstatement."

The general condition of Capitular Masonry in the Grand Jurisdiction of Maryland seems to be in a fairly prosperous and satisfactory state, as evidenced by the following from the Grand High Priest's address:

"From advance reports received from the Secretaries of every Chapter, I find that the number of exaltations during the year ended October 31 is 261, and the net gain in membership 204, the largest number of exaltations and the greatest net gain within the last ten years, which is as far back as I have examined the records. Every Chapter but two has had exaltations, and every one but three has made a net gain, the three having lost one each. The general prosperity of the country embraces all the Chapters of our jurisdiction, and 'peace and harmony' as well exist among them."

The report of the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the Grand

High Priest's report of the excellent condition of the Royal Craft, approves the dispensations granted and endorses the recommendations of the Grand High Priest as sound Masonic law, and suggests a recommendation that if carried out would doubtless be of value to the Craft in the State of Maryland forever in the future, viz.:

"That a complete roster of the Royal Craft from the beginning of its history in Maryland should at once be undertaken by the Grand Secretary and prosecuted with diligence, so that a well-indexed list of membership may be available for ready reference."

All of which were accepted and the recommendation adopted by the Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Grievances announced that nothing had been submitted to them requiring consideration, and congratulated the Grand Chapter upon the peace and harmony and prosperity prevailing within its jurisdiction.

Thirty-five pages are taken up with a list of the Officers, Past Officers and members of the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, as communicated to the Grand Secretary by the returns at this Annual Convocation, giving also the dates when chartered, the place and date of regular meetings of each Chapter.

The memorial pages are introduced with

"The following Most Excellent Companions have descended the Arch and been exalted by the Supreme Grand High Priest above."

There are printed in this volume twenty-one standing resolutions of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, as revised and adopted November, 1901, most of which are generally recognized as Royal Arch law in all jurisdictions, a few of which might be adopted with profit in this jurisdiction, viz.:

"All Chapters are required to procure and keep Mark Books for the registry of the Marks of their respective members. The registry shall

include copy of Mark, with description. No candidate shall be exalted to the degree of Royal Arch who has not previously recorded his Mark.

"No candidates shall be exalted, unless by dispensation, until he has made sufficient proficiency in the preceding degrees to satisfy the Council that he can make himself known in those degrees. The examination as to proficiency to be had in open M. E. Master's Lodge.

"No High Priest-elect shall be installed unless he is competent to confer the traditional work of the Capitular degrees. Such competency to be determined by a majority of the Committee on Work, composed of the Grand Lecturer and two permanent members of the Grand Chapter, appointed annually by the M. E. Grand High Priest. They shall issue a certificate to that effect, to be placed in the hands of the M. E. Grand High Priest previous to the installation.

"Any subordinate Chapter in any adjoining jurisdiction may confer the degrees of Capitular Masonry on Master Masons of this State who reside nearer to such Chapter than to any Chapter of this State, provided the same privilege be extended to the Chapters in this State by such adjoining jurisdictions." (NOTE.—West Virginia, District of Columbia, Delaware and Virginia are in accord with this resolution.)

A Special Convocation of the Council of M. E. High Priests of Maryland convened at Masonic Temple in the city of Baltimore, Tuesday, December 26, 1905, and also on Thursday, November 22, 1906, at which latter Convocation six High Priests-elect of their several Chapters were anointed, consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, which, with the re-election of officers and the passing of the box for fraternal assistance, was all the business done.

The standing resolutions above referred to limit the Report of the Committee on Correspondence to seventy-five pages; the Report of that Committee for this year includes eight-two pages, which is a brief review of the Convocations of forty-eight Grand Chapters, but does not include the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

William F. Beran, Grand High Priest.

John H. Miller, Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## MARYLAND, 1907.

The One Hundred and Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland was held in Masonic Temple in the city of Baltimore, on Thursday, November 21, 1907. All of the Grand Officers were present except the Grand Treasurer. There were also present eleven Past Grand High Priests, and a goodly number of Representatives of Chapters, Past High Priests, and twenty-five Representatives of Grand Chapters, who were requested by the Grand High Priest to convey the good wishes of the Companions of the Grand Jurisdiction of Maryland to those of the Grand Chapters they represented, among which is not found the Representative from this Grand Jurisdiction, Hon. George L. Wellington, of Cumberland.

The reason for the brevity of the address of the Grand High Priest is found in the opening paragraph, as follows:

"In a thoroughly organized association, such as ours, most of the serious questions have long been determined, and such as occasionally are presented to your Grand High Priest are easily answered by a study of the Ancient Landmarks and Regulations of the Order and the Standing Resolutions of the Grand Chapter. No questions of moment have been submitted, and in consequence no decisions worthy of comment have been made. Several requests for opinions have been presented, but they have been purely academic, and called for nothing more than a personal expression."

Appropriate mention is made in the address of the Grand High Priest regarding the death of Past Grand High Priest Daniel T. Ordeman, at Frederick, Md.; the death of Grand Treasurer David C. Curry and of Jacob Likes, who was an earnest, faithful member of the Committee on Work, regarding whom the Grand High Priest says:

"His extensive and exact knowledge of the Ritual, combined with his cheerful willingness to impart his knowledge to all earnest students, made him an exceptionally valuable member of this Grand Body."

The Grand High Priest made a number of visitations to the subordinate Chapters of his Grand Jurisdiction, and in all of them was accompanied by some of the Officers of the Grand Chapter. He says they were invariably received with proper honors and every courtesy was extended.

"The spirit of Freemasonry was so evident in the hospitality extended that we feel sure the efforts of the Grand High Priest and his Officers were appreciated, and we trust may prove an encouragement and a benefit to each of the Chapters."

Almost one-third of the address of the Grand High Priest is taken up with an account of the visit made by the Grand High Priest and a number of the other Grand Officers to Norfolk, to participate in the celebration of the centennial meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, which was evidently a very interesting, entertaining and pleasant affair.

Only two dispensations are noted, one for the election of a Treasurer to fill a vacancy occasioned by death; the other to hold an election of officers, the same not being held at the proper Convocation. The first we approve, but as to the second, we think such practice should be discouraged.

Under the head of "Recommendations" several matters are suggested, the most important of which is as follows:

"I also recommend that the Committee on Work require in their examinations of High Priests-elect a reasonable knowledge of the standing resolutions of the Grand Chapter, and a knowledge of their own By-Laws."

We quote this not so much for information as for showing the novel condition that must prevail throughout the Grand Jurisdiction of Maryland, if they elect as High Priests of their subordinate Chapters Companions who do not have a reasonable knowledge regarding the matters suggested in the recommendation.

The Grand Lecturer reports having visited every Chapter in the jurisdiction during the year, and some of them several times, concluding his report as follows:

"It is very gratifying to report that our Chapters are all in good condition. The work is very well done and generally impressive. All are in better financial condition than when last visited and the average attendance increased."

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in Eutaw Savings Bank, November 21, 1907, of $3,300.00.

The Committee on Unfinished Business, on Dispensations and Charters, and on Grievances all reported that nothing had been submitted for their consideration, and had no further report to make to the Grand Chapter.

About forty pages of the Proceedings is taken up with a list of officers and members of subordinate Chapters, comprising the officers-elect for the ensuing year and members of the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, as communicated to the Grand Secretary by the returns at this Annual Convocation.

Twenty-two standing resolutions of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, as revised and adopted November, 1901, are amended and added to up to date and printed in this Proceedings, none of which are particularly radical nor widely different from those of our own Grand Jurisdiction, except No. 17, as follows:

"Any subordinate Chapter in any adjoining jurisdiction may confer the degrees of Capitular Masonry on Master Masons of this State who reside nearer to such Chapter than to any Chapter in this State, provided the same privilege be extended to the Chapters in this State by such adjoining jurisdictions." (NOTE.—West Virginia, District of Columbia, Delaware and Virginia are in accord with this resolution.)

The report of the Committee on Correspondence was submitted by Edward T. Schultz, Past Deputy Grand High

Priest, Chairman, reviewing forty-eight Grand Chapters in about eighty-five pages, of which three pages are devoted to Pennsylvania, 1906.

Regarding the prerogative of the Grand High Priest to make Royal Arch Masons at sight—on which there was a decision by our Grand High Priest last year, holding that such dispensation "will not be granted simply to enable some one to take degrees in other bodies, and where the power does exist it will not be exercised except for very good and sufficient reasons"—discussing which Companion Schultz says:

"We have always contended that the power to make Royal Arch Masons at sight inhered in the office of Grand High Priest, as it does in the office of Grand Master to make Masons at sight; but in the exercise of this power by the Grand High Priest, the same procedure must be observed as that pursued by the Grand Master, which is as follows: The Grand Master calls to his assistance six or more Brethren, opens an *occasional* Lodge, and at once confers the three degrees upon the person he has chosen to honor, and the occasional Lodge is then closed, and the Brother thus made is a Mason at large, and can only acquire membership in a particular Lodge by the unanimous consent of members thereof. There is no petition, reference to a Committee or ballot required. Nor can the ceremony be performed in or under the auspices of a warranted Lodge or Chapter, for in that case a Brother or Companion would become a member of said Lodge or Chapter. Therefore a dispensation to confer all the degrees in a Chapter at one time is not, as the Grand High Priest explains, making a Royal Arch Mason at sight. It is simply permitting a Chapter to omit the statutory regulations regarding time.

"While we are clearly of the opinion that this power resides in the Grand Master and Grand High Priest, it cannot be deputed to others and, as we said, the ceremony must be performed in a Lodge or Chapter especially convened for that purpose alone.

"We have elsewhere said that this power should be sparingly exercised. No man should be thus singled out and honored, unless in recognition for some signal service or benefit rendered to his country or mankind."

Charles E. Cochrane, Baltimore, Md., Grand High Priest.
John H. Miller, Baltimore, Md., Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## MASSACHUSETTS, 1906.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts has a practice similar to that of our own Grand Jurisdiction of having Quarterly Convocations, the first of which for 1906 was held in Ionic Hall, Masonic Temple, Boston, Tuesday, March 13, 1906, at seven P.M. The only matter of particular importance reported at this meeting was from the Committee on Annual Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, from which we quote with approval the following:

"Your Committee notes with pleasure that few dispensations have been asked for. The Committee is in hearty accord with the Grand High Priest wherein he says: 'That the Constitution and General Regulations should not be lightly set aside to gratify personal wishes or convenience.'

"It is believed that if Chapters would exercise more care and consideration, the number of requests could be still further reduced."

We are very much surprised to find adopted at this Convocation the following regulation:

"That every Chapter in this jurisdiction be required to send a written or printed sealed notice to its members, giving place and time of meeting, business to be transacted and names of candidates to be balloted for, with such other information as may be proper."

We can hardly conceive of a Grand Chapter of the pretended standing, intelligence and Masonic zeal of that of the Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Massachusetts not having adopted such a regulation and practice more than a century ago.

The second Quarterly Convocation was held in Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, June 12, 1906. Little business was done other than the presentation of memorials for Alfred Augustus Burdett and Frank Chandler, and a discussion of the approaching meeting of the General Grand

Chapter that would open in Boston within one week from that date.

A Special Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was held in Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, June 19, 1906, for the purpose of receiving and welcoming the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, U. S. A., which assembled in Boston for the purpose of holding the Thirty-third Triennial Convocation. A number of very prominent Companions were present on that occasion, and by appropriate remarks from the Grand High Priest were received with the Grand Honors. The responses were all very interesting and instructive. We quote from but one, that of His Excellency Governor Curtis Guild, Jr.:

"Massachusetts, always broad and liberal in her policy, has ever been a favored home of our beloved institution and of the noble lessons that it inculcuates. We are glad and proud to welcome you here to the home of Paul Revere, and of those others of Massachusetts birth who have shed such light in Masonic circles from the foundation of the institution in the United States.

"Proud as we are of our local history, however, proud as we are of the part that Massachusetts has played, we are prouder yet that it has been given to her to be a part of the great sisterhood of States; for in greater affection even than the flag of Massachusetts do we hold the flag that belongs to all of us—the flag of the United States; and prouder than the name of 'citizen of Massachusetts' is to us the name of 'citizen of the United States of America.' The bonds of that citizenship resemble the bonds of our Brotherhood; and so, whether it be for the extension of the commerce of Seattle, the rescue of the suffering in San Francisco, the building up of the interests of the Gulf States through a Panama Canal, or the rescuing of the Appalachian forests of New Hampshire for the preservation of the water supply of northern New England, we take as much interest in those great projects as in those within our borders.

"We welcome you here in the full brotherhood of American citizenship.

"The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Most Excellent High Priest, has a motto which, I regret to say, is a mistranslation of the motto of the Montagues. Montague, you will remember, was the head of the Masonic order in England when the charter was given to New England. The motto

of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is called 'Follow Reason!'—a mistranslation of the motto of the Montagues, 'Suivez Raison!' which, correctly translated, means 'Follow the Right.' That is the true motto for the Masonic Order, a good motto for Massachusetts, a good motto for the world—'Follow the Right.' "

In some of the Grand Chapter Proceedings that we have reviewed they say of the General Grand Chapter, in making report to their local Grand Jurisdictions, that these Triennial Convocations are very pleasant social affairs, indicating, however, that little if any business of particular interest or important character was transacted. Without entering into details, in our opinion satisfactory evidence in that regard is contained in the Proceedings now under consideration, and we find therein under the title "Triennial Incidents of the Week":

"TUESDAY, June 19. Early in the morning the sky, that had been overcast for two days, gave evidence of a typical New England summer's day, and encouraged the hope that the plans of the Committee for the entertainment of the ladies would go forward without interruption.

"At ten o'clock A.M. special trolley cars were taken by about one hundred and twenty ladies in Copley Square, at the Public Library, for a ride through the country to Lexington and Concord, stopping *en route* at Harvard University, Cambridge. The recent rainfall rendered the ride cool and entirely free from dust. Having spent the allotted time at Lexington, the party soon reached Concord. Here the arrangements of the Committee were materially supplemented by the Companions of Walden Royal Arch Chapter of that place and their ladies, who rendered valuable assistance in the entertainment of our guests. Lunch was served, after which carriages were taken and the various points of interest, made so either historically or as the home of those whose names are closely interwoven with the literature of the last century, were visited. At shortly after five o'clock P.M. the return trip was made over the Boston & Maine and 'L' railroads, arriving at headquarters at six o'clock. The party was in charge of Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest Samuel F. Hubbard, to whom had been especially assigned the arrangement of the 'sightseeing' excursions of the week.

"TUESDAY EVENING.—On Tuesday evening, from eight o'clock until twelve, a reception was tendered to the visiting Companions and the

ladies accompanying them in Masonic Temple. The various bodies occupying apartments in the building waived their prior claim to them for the evening, to assist the Companions of Massachusetts in carrying forward their anticipated plans; Massachusetts Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and St. Paul's Royal Arch Chapter holding their regular meetings on other nights for that purpose.

"The visiting Companions were received in Corinthian Hall, in which an organ and orchestral concert was given at eight o'clock.

"At nine o'clock the guests repaired to Ionic Hall for an hour or more, where they were given an entertainment, somewhat varied in its nature, consisting of vocal music by the Albion Quartet of Boston, readings, scenes from the biograph, etc. At ten o'clock a short promenade concert was given in Gothic Hall by Carter's Orchestra, followed by dancing until twelve.

"Refreshments were served in the Banquet Hall from nine-thirty until eleven-thirty o'clock.

"The Temple, which was thrown open throughout, was tested to its full capacity, and the Companions and ladies of Massachusetts rendered valuable assistance to the Committee in the furtherance and execution of its plans.

"WEDNESDAY, June 20.—Two events were arranged for the day.

"WEDNESDAY MORNING.—At ten o'clock A.M. the ladies of the delegations were taken from headquarters for an automobile ride through the 'Metropolitan Park System,' or so much of it as time would permit, arriving at Rowe's Wharf at one o'clock P.M., where the staunch steamer *Governor Andrew* was awaiting their arrival, also the Companions of the delegations. They were joined by many of the Companions of Massachusetts and their ladies.

"The sail, that continued from one until five o'clock P.M., was among the islands in the harbor, nearing the forts and points of interest to the visitors, and along the shores of the bay.

"The afternoon was delightfully cool and the sky clear, a typical day for a sail.

"Lunch was served on the boat, and Carter's Military Band of twenty-five pieces enlivened the occasion with a selection of appropriate music. On arrival at the wharf, the guests were transferred to headquarters by the 'L' railroad cars.

"Previous to the closing of the morning session of the General Grand Chapter the announcement was made that the Recording Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, Right Worshipful Brother Sereno D. Nickerson, would address those Companions who might be interested in the subject on 'Early Masonic History in America.'

"WEDNESDAY EVENING.—In the arrangement of the events for the week the Committee placed this evening at the disposal of the Most Excellent General Grand High Prest, who, with Mrs. Pollard, tendered a reception to the visiting Companions and their ladies at the Hotel Brunswick. The successful manner in which every detail was carried out made the event one of the most enjoyable of the week. The spacious parlors of the hotel, which had been profusely decorated, were reserved for the occasion, to which music added its charm. Everything was done in a manner reflecting credit upon host and hostess and commensurate with the well-established reputation of the house. Old acquaintances were renewed and ripened into friendship and new ones formed that may, perchance, last through many long years to come. We trust it may be so.

"THURSDAY MORNING.—At ten o'clock A.M. the ladies were again waited upon at the headquarters, and as many as so desired were taken in observation cars on a tour among the 'Historic Places' of 'Old Boston,' and a goodly number availed themselves of the opportunity to pass the forenoon in obtaining a view of some of the spots that events have made memorable in our history.

"THURSDAY EVENING.—On Thursday evening, at six o'clock, a banquet was given by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, in honor of the Thirty-third Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, U. S. A., at Tremont Temple, Boston.

"Covers were laid for 625 persons; the hall was handsomely decorated with flowers, draperies and electric lights, red being the color."

We regret that space will not permit a reproduction of Companion Nickerson's address on "Early Masonic History in America." It is a very well prepared and interesting statement of many matters that have been earnestly discussed by students of Masonry throughout this entire land. It covers almost twenty pages of the Proceedings, about six of which are devoted largely to our own Benjamin Franklin, whom he introduces in criticising and giving expression to his feeling toward Brother MacCalla, who is upholding a controversy which a Jew by the name of Norton had with Charles W. Moore, in which the Jew petitioned the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to revise its ritual and strike out what he called its "sectarian allusions" in the dedication to the Holy St. John, and also to the ascription to Christ by

the Chaplain of his local Lodge, which petition was refused and a recommendation adopted suggesting that the petitioner have leave to withdraw from the Lodge, which was unanimously adopted. Brother MacCalla, at Norton's suggestion, looked up the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, published by Franklin in 1730, and published a lengthy article in his *Keystone*. In the publication of 1730 Franklin stated there were several Masonic Lodges in Philadelphia. In the same issue he published what had been circulated in London for some time as an exposure of Masonry. It is very evident from this fact that Franklin was not a member of the Fraternity at that time.

The occasion of the banquet above referred to was doubtless a very pleasant one. The speeches of the Companions responding to toasts are printed in the Proceedings, and are full of facts and sentiments of an interesting, high and ennobling character. They contain many matters that, if space would permit, it would afford us pleasure to quote in this review.

The exercises of the General Grand Chapter closed with a report from the Committee appointed to give expression to their high appreciation of the many courtesies extended and entertainment provided by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, which, after a patriotic recital, closed as follows:

"They may have the happy assurance that their labors, sacrifices and pleasures have not only resulted in the full fruition of their hopes, in so far as they related to the success of the Thirty-third Triennial of the General Grand Chapter, but have also added another beautiful bud to the bouquet of precious memories which cluster about these fraternal reunions, the fragrance of which grows sweeter as the years roll on.

"Journey on, Companions of the Royal Craft in Massachusetts, and may the God of our Fathers be with you and speed you on your way."

The third Quarterly Convocation of the Grand Royal

Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was held in Masonic Temple, Boston, September 11, 1906.

The Committee that had previously been appointed to take charge of all arrangements relative to the Thirty-third Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter made a report showing an expenditure on entertainment, etc., of $4,097.38, closing with:

"We believe this celebration will pass into the history of our Grand Chapter as a most notable event, and that the Capitular Rite throughout our jurisdiction will receive a decided benefit in an increased enthusiasm in all that pertains to the best interests of our Order."

The One Hundred and Eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was held in Masonic Temple, Boston, Tuesday, December 11, 1906.

The report of the Committee on Returns shows the total membership August 31, 1906, to be 19,367, a net gain of 805 during the year.

The Grand High Priest's address covers twelve pages of the Proceedings, and is an interesting, well-prepared statement of his administration, our severest criticism of which is the number of dispensations granted.

Harry Hunt, M. E. Grand High Priest, Boston, Mass.

J. Gilman Waite, R. E. Grand Secretary, Boston, Mass.

R. E. U.

## MICHIGAN.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Michigan was held in the Masonic Temple in the city of Port Huron, May 21, 1907. All of the Grand Officers were present except the Grand Royal Arch Captain. Of the 140 chartered Chapters 135 were represented. There were in attendance sixteen Past

Grand High Priests and 250 Representatives of chartered Chapters, in all a total attendance of 301.

The Grand High Priest's address covers about twenty-five pages of the 261 in the Proceedings. Several pages are taken up with terms of welcome to the city of Port Huron, and of congratulations on the satisfactory and prosperous condition incident to Capitular Masonry in their Grand Jurisdiction. Five pages are covered by the memorials of M. E. Past Grand High Priests Companions Benjamin F. Watts and Charles L. Stevens.

Referring to the General Grand Chapter held at Boston, the Grand High Priest says:

"The Companions of Massachusetts were very cordial in their reception, and their hospitality was unstinted. Everything was done that would add to the pleasure of the delegates and the ladies accompanying them. The city of Boston, possessing so many points of interest connected with the early history of the nation, was particularly attractive and inspiring to those of us who were paying this city our first visit. . . . . I will only express one or two thoughts as they appeared to me, in a personal way. I enjoyed the meeting on account of its newness, and the signs and opening and closing exercises, which materially differed from our own. Very little legislation was considered. Almost the entire time was taken up in making the various reports. The third day of the session was given over entirely to sightseeing, of which there was an abundant opportunity, both within the city and the surrounding towns and country. The social features were elaborate. The drives, automobile rides, boat excursions, receptions, dinners and banquets were numerous and thoroughly enjoyed. At the dinners and banquets the Michigan delegates were conspicuous participants.

"In my opinion the actual work of the General Grand Chapter could have been easily crowded into one day. I am unable to discover any particular benefit to be derived by the Grand Chapters from these sessions, other than a good social time for those lucky enough to be in a position to attend. It certainly makes a fine outing. I freely confess that I shall be happy to attend the next meeting, which is to be held at Atlanta, Georgia, even though I do not have the fortune of being a proxy for one of the Grand Council.

"I cannot see any real logical reason for our Grand Chapter paying a per capita tax, amounting to $170.70, as was the case this year, and

defraying the expenses of our delegates attending the sessions. But we are tied to it, and I suppose will so remain, because the Grand Chapter of Michigan has no legal right to secede."

In view of which possibly Pennsylvania and Virginia, which, I believe, are the only two States not members of the General Grand Chapter, may be acting for the best and justified in not belonging thereto.

The Grand High Priest visited officially quite a large number of the subordinate Chapters, and was well pleased with the general interest displayed by the Companions in the work, and everywhere had a most cordial welcome and was sumptuously entertained by the Craft. He discourages the idea that seems to prevail generally in his jurisdiction that the Chapters should have work in some of the degrees whenever an official visit was paid by the Grand Officers, indicating that in his opinion better results can be obtained where there is no candidate; the use of the dummy enabling the officer to correct errors in the manner of putting on the degree or the language in which the ritual is rendered at the time the error occurs, rather than after the completion of the degree, it making a deeper impression on the workers and the Chapter receiving more benefit therefrom.

One new Chapter was constituted during the year, Farewell Chapter, No. 147, at Farewell, Mich.

Dispensations were granted for the establishment of two new Chapters, one at Ontonagon and the other at Hart. Application was made for a third at Plainwell, but, on account of the short time for investigation, etc., previous to this Convocation, the Grand High Priest left this application as a legacy to the incoming Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest's reference to the Grand Lecturer is interesting; we quote therefrom as follows:

I can assure you of Companion Maynard's success as Grand Lecturer,

and I believe no mistake was made when you elected him to that office. It has given me great satisfaction, while at his schools, to listen to his words—not of criticism, but of helpfulness. I have never heard him criticise a Chapter on their work; it would rather be along the line of suggestions which would be instructive, and leave the Chapter with something to ponder over, to think about, and to study. He is a thorough ritualist, well acquainted with the legends and Biblical history, and has a keen perception of the manner in which the scenes should be exemplified, and a pleasing and forceful way of presenting his instructions."

Quite a number of special dispensations were granted for various reasons, the propriety of some of which we question, such as the changing of the time of holding the annual election of officers. Perhaps there were good and sufficient reasons for such changes, but in our opinion it is a practice that should not be encouraged. If the officers and Companions of a subordinate Chapter are not sufficiently interested in the welfare and success of their Chapter to attend on the holding of elections at the regular time for such, the penalty should be made a forfeiture of their charter.

Under the head of "Decisions" a number of questions were propounded to the Grand High Priest, and all of them answered in terms clear and plain and in a manner that was satisfactory to and approved by the Grand Chapter.

Regarding the condition of the rite the Grand High Priest says:

"I have the pleasure to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout our jurisdiction. For a time there was a cloud on the horizon that threatened a disagreeable storm, but the sunlight of brotherly love has dispelled the gloom and secured a reconciliation of some unhappy differences."

He then gives a brief statement of the trouble, which came from a Companion alleging against the High Priest of his Chapter some U. M. C., consisting mostly of some slanderous language, and after some months of formalities incident to the matter,

"The opposing Companions were led to shake hands and be reconciled, promising for the good of Masonry to work together for the interests of their Chapter. So nothing remains now for us to do but rejoice that these unhappy differences were thus smoothed away."

The Grand High Priest calls attention of the Committee on Jurisprudence to the advisability of having a competent Committee revise and have reprinted the "Red Book," the Constitution and the Penal Code and Decisions, to be numbered consecutively so as to make them easily referred to. He urges that the laws of Royal Arch Masonry are progressive and expanding to meet the rising needs of the Royal Craft, and speaks of the importance and absolute necessity of keeping these matters up to date, "as a handy and convenient working tool for those who must support and maintain our laws and see them duly executed."

The Grand High Priest expresses his appreciation of the great honor conferred upon him in the following language at the conclusion of his address:

"One of the most pleasant moments of my life came to me when you made me your Grand High Priest. It is an honor which comes but once in a lifetime, and he who does not esteem it is unworthy the name of a Mason. I assure you that so long as I retain the faculties with which I have been endowed unimpaired, I shall hold in appreciative remembrance the courtesies and valuable assistance I have received from the officers and Companions of this Grand Chapter."

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a balance at the close of the Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation of $8,187.91, receipts during the year of $11,164.73, making a total of $19,352.64; total disbursements during the year, $11,590.29, leaving a balance of cash on hand of $7,762.35.

The report of the Grand Secretary states that all Chapters have made returns and paid the annual dues. He also makes the interesting statement that within their Grand Jurisdiction they have 808 emeritus members; that is, that

number of Companions who are upwards of sixty-five years of age. From the statistical part of his report we find that they have 141 active Chapters within their Grand Jurisdiction, 7 defunct Chapters, with a total membership December 27, 1906, of 17,761, showing a net gain for the year of 691, and an average membership of Chapters of 126, the largest Chapter being Peninsular, No. 16, of Detroit, having a membership of 861; the smallest Chapter Ontonagon, U. D., No. 28. In their membership there are 2,219 exempt from dues. This report also shows $5,544.00 as unpaid dues more than one year ago.

The report of the Committee on Obituaries is a very interesting and well prepared paper of ten pages, giving a full and splendid history of the M. E. Companions of their own jurisdiction who have passed away during the year and a brief statement of those of other jurisdictions, among which we find mention of the death of William Charles Hamilton, Past Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, who died at his home in Philadelphia, September 5, 1906, which closes with:

"He governed the Craft as Grand High Priest in 1879–1880 with the greatest dignity, accompanied with refinement and affability."

The Grand Lecturer visited forty-eight towns for the purpose of holding Schools of Instruction in the subordinate Chapters. While he is of opinion that more interest is manifested at the meetings when they have actual candidates, yet he agrees with the Grand High Priest of Mississippi that

"There is no better way in which to give or receive instruction in the work of our Order (which will reach so many of those present) than to teach without a candidate, for then we can consult and confer together as the work progresses."

The Grand Lecturer expresses his opinion and apprecia-

tion of the ability and work of the Grand High Priest in no unstinted terms. He says:

"I wish that he might have visited every Chapter in the State, for his strong, rugged personality and love of the Order gave strength and encouragement to every Chapter he visited. I saw him install the officers in a public installation in Farwell and in the Chapter of Portland, and the impressive manner in which he conducted these beautiful ceremonies must have exalted the opinion of every person who heard them of the refined and spiritual nature of our noble Order."

Our opinion regarding Grand Visitations is endorsed by the following statement from the Grand Lecturer's report, viz.:

"I am firmly convinced that the visits of the Grand High Priest are conducive to the material prosperity of our Order, and if the Chapters make such use of the visits as they may the meetings will be followed by petitions of those worthy Brothers who will surely desire to partake of those high privileges with which the Royal Craft are regaled."

The Grand Lecturer expresses what might be called good sense, but certainly opens the door for earnest criticism and invites a lecture on his own head by the following statement:

"Of course, it has been my duty to urge a correct rendition of the ritual, and to correct errors where improper rendition has crept in, to get the work as nearly correct as possible; but after all, when it comes to practical work, I would rather hear an officer forcibly impress the important lessons in our degrees, even if he happens to leave out half the ritual, than to hear a letter-perfect rendition of the language so delivered that the candidate loses the great moral and spiritual benefit of the ceremony. The height of perfection is to be correct and impressive. This we all strive for, but few attain to this ideal perfection; but let us all set our ideal high and do our best to attain to it."

Taken as a whole, the Grand Lecturer's report is an able, worthy document and deserves careful perusal and consideration, and amply warrants his closing statement, to the effect that

"I hope that I have accomplished some good among the Craft during the year. At any rate, 'such as I had, gave I unto thee.' "

The Committee on Jurisprudence reviews all the special dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest and carefully considers the decisions on Masonic law reported by him in his address, and found that he exercised able and wise judgment in the former, and that the latter were in strict accord with the law of their Grand Chapter and recommended that they be approved.

The report of the Board of Control of the Michigan Masonic Home shows that it is in a prosperous condition, and that the inmates have been cared for in the usual and satisfactory manner, and seem to enjoy the surroundings and conveniences provided them through the generosity of the Masons of Michigan and the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The total expenditures for the last sixteen months up to the date of that report was $17,930.31. The report sets forth that

"The Home is now in first-class condition, except the heating system, which at no distant date must be overhauled and re-established."

It would seem that a number of bequests have been offered this Home, but because it is not incorporated and is not a legal entity it is not regularly qualified to receive and administer bequests or endowment funds. The following resolution was proposed:

"*Resolved*, That the Representatives of the Grand Chapter upon said Board of Control be and they are hereby authorized to join the other members of said Board in any arrangement, by incorporation or otherwise, to enable said Board to receive, administer, and act as Trustees for any bequests or endowments."

The Committee on Unfinished Business congratulates the Companions and Committees and Grand Officers on the

thoroughness of their work, suggesting that nothing remains to do but to congratulate the Grand Chapter on the state of the Order in general in the Grand Jurisdiction. They say:

"We have searched through the several apartments of the Temple and find everything in perfect order."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is the work of Charles A. Conover, Grand Secretary, and in his introduction he very pertinently remarks:

"A reviewer must necessarily serve up a 'hash' made up of many things to please many boarders, for some like the meat and some the murphys, some highly spiced and some plain and cold—so there you are! Please them all you cannot.

"I go on the plan this year of selecting what I think will be of general interest to the Mason who reads, and the fellow that does not read will not be hurt a bit.

"It is unfortunate that more Companions do not read these reviews, for while some parts of it may not appeal to him who reads, he possibly is not such a well-posted Mason that he cannot learn something from the sayings and doings in other jurisdictions than his own. The manner of distributing the Proceedings is possibly responsible in some degree for the lack of interest in these reviews. I have found cases where individual Masons wanted the information that was contained in the printed Proceedings, that the High Priest himself did not care enough about to look inside the books after their receipt. I know some Proceedings never see the light of day after reaching their destination."

An examination of the reviews made of the various Proceedings of the various Grand Chapters shows clearly that Companion Conover strictly carries out the plan proposed in his introduction.

To Pennsylvania for 1905 is devoted nearly four pages.

Charles Cottrell, M. E. Grand High Priest.

Charles A. Conover, R. E. Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## MINNESOTA.

The Forty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Minnesota was held in Masonic Hall in the city of St. Paul, Tuesday, October 8, 1907. All the Grand Officers were present except the Grand Chaplain, Grand Master of the Second Vail and Grand Sentinel. There were present and entitled to vote fourteen Grand Officers, eighteen permanent members and seventy-three Representatives of fifty-four out of sixty-five Chapters, a total of 105 Companions.

The Grand High Priest opened his address as follows:

"It is with unfeigned pleasure that I bid you welcome to this our Forty-sixth Annual Convocation, and extend to you fraternal greetings, trusting that your attendance here will prove of essential benefit to the Craft. May worldly cares be forgotten for the time, and let us each enjoy the privilege of mutual companionship, bearing in mind, however, that social reunion, though a pleasant feature of our Convocation, is not the predominating one. We have duties to perform, believing in the sentiment that duty never leaves us until we leave the light of day. May we be guided aright in all our deliberations by the Ruler of the Universe; may he give us wisdom to conduct our affairs in the spirit of justice and charity."

Two Chapters, Jackson, No. 73, and Beulah, No. 72, were constituted during the year. Dispensations were issued for new Chapters at Appleton, to be called Appleton Chapter, and at Cannon Falls, to be called Asa Chapter, and at St. Paul, to be known as Jewel Chapter; for the first two of which the Committee on Charters and Dispensations recommended that charters issue, and for the last at its request the dispensation is continued for another year. Six special dispensations were issued to subordinate Chapters to elect and install officers, on account of no quorum being present at the Annual Convocation in each case.

Under the hear of "Decisions" we find the following ques-

tions and answers, which we deem of sufficient importance to quote:

"*Q.* When a Companion signs a petition for a dispensation for a new Chapter U. D., does he not remain a full member of his Chapter until the charter is granted?

"*A.* A Companion signing a petition to form a Chapter U. D. does not thereby sever his connection with the Chapter of which he is then a member.

"*Q.* At the time a charter is granted, or before the Chapter is constituted, if a Companion who has petitioned for the same fails to secure his dimit, does he remain a member of his Chapter as before?

"*A.* He retains his membership in his Chapter until regularly dimitted therefrom.

"*Q.* During the time the new Chapter is working U. D., has a Companion who petitioned therefor the same rights as any other member of his Chapter?

"*A.* He is entitled to all the rights and prerogatives of said membership."

The Grand High Priest made a number of visitations, accompanied by some of the Grand Officers, and concludes that part of his address as follows:

"Many invitations to visit Chapters throughout the State have been received during the year, which were acknowledged with an expression of regret at my inability to accept them. It was my intention to make more extensive visitations than I am able to report at this time, but business duties interfered. However, the visits made were thoroughly enjoyable, the Companions of the several Chapters receiving me most cordially."

The Grand High Priest suggested the appointment of a Committee to consider the advisability of celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the formation of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota, which will occur in 1909.

Instead of a Grand Lecturer the Grand Jurisdiction of Minnesota maintain duly commissioned Companions known as Grand Inspectors, regarding which the Grand High Priest says:

"From the returns I find that Chapters needing instruction the most did not get it, seemingly because of lack of interest on the part of the officers, some not even responding to the correspondence of the Inspector. It is my desire to impress upon all the officers of subordinate Chapters here assembled the necessity for their hearty co-operation in this work, that the system of inspection may not fail of its primary object, which is for instruction in and unification of the Capitular Rites in this Grand Jurisdiction."

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance on hand of $9,037.50.

A summary of the Secretary's report shows: Exalted, 530; joined, 53; restored, 23; withdrawn, 96; stricken from the roll, 39; expelled, 2; died, 97; total gain, 626; total losses, 234—a net gain of 392, exceeding that of last year by 94.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, Visitations and Unfinished Business report that nothing had come to their knowledge for consideration.

The abstract of Chapter returns to September 1, 1907, shows in detail the number exalted, joined, restored, etc., showing a total membership at the last named date of 6,988.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is submitted by Irving Todd, and contains forty-five pages, one of which is devoted to Pennsylvania, 1906, the most interesting part of which is as follows:

"Companion Henderson does not see the use of a Deputy Grand High Priest. How should he when Pennsylvania never had such an officer? Still their Grand Lodge has a Deputy, in the direct line of promotion. He says that their installation ceremony contains much that is secret and cannot be performed in public, a new reason to us. We had supposed that the prohibition was entirely one of exclusiveness, as a Grand Body in that jurisdiction cannot be trusted out of doors without first being closed.

"Companion Bates holds that if the degrees are worth anything they are worth the fee, and no one unable to pay it should seek admission; that a Grand Representative is more ornamental than useful, and that Freemasonry without the first three degrees is nothing."

George N. Houghton, Grand High Priest, Minneapolis, Minn.

John Fishel, Grand Secretary, St. Paul, Minn.

R. E. U.

## MISSISSIPPI.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Mississippi was held in the hall of Natchez Chapter, No. 1, in the city of Natchez, on Thursday, February 21, 1907. All of the Grand Officers were present except the Grand Masters of the Second and Third Vails. There were also present five Past Grand High Priests, one Past Deputy Grand High Priest, eighteen Grand Representatives, about seventy-five Representatives of Chapters and thirteen Past High Priests. Several Chapters were not represented.

After extending fraternal greetings the M. E. Grand High Priest in his address says:

"It is also a great pleasure to visit the beautiful and prosperous city of Natchez, which has so often thrown wide her gates to the several bodies of Masons with that genial, warm and fraternal clasp of the hand that makes heart warm to heart as if Brothers indeed, the appreciation of which is made manifest by the large number of the Royal Craft which has assembled within her boundaries to-day. That the importance and purpose of this occasion is known and appreciated is apparent from the fact that you have abandoned for the time being your usual avocations, traveled many miles, and are spending your valuable time in looking after the business and varied interests of our time-honored institution."

Extended notice, in beautiful and befitting terms, is made regarding the death of the following Most Excellent Companions: Irvin Miller, B. T. Kimbrough and Phineas M. Savery. Reference is also made to the death of Companions of subordinate Chapters and also of other jurisdictions, as follows:

"The spirit of Death breathed upon them and they are not. Let us hope that their names have been engraved in the Lamb's Book of Life. We cherish their memories here and mourn with their bereaved families. In extending them our sincere condolence, we can only bid them wait patiently the while, as it will not be long until we shall pass through the same gate, and then what a welcome we shall receive from those in waiting there!"

In the same connection the Committee on Necrology, to which was referred the duty of paying fraternal tribute to the dead, introduced its report with a beautiful poem entitled

A SONG TO THOSE WHO ANSWER NOT.

"It singeth low in every heart,
We hear it, each and all—
A song of those who answer not,
However we may call.
They throng the silence of the breast,
We see them as of yore—
The kind, the brave, the true, the sweet,
Who walk with us no more!

"'Tis hard to take the burden up
When these have laid it down;
They brightened all the joy of life,
They softened every frown.
But, oh, 'tis good to think of them
When we are troubled sore;
Thanks be to God that such have been,
Though they are here no more!

"More homelike seems the vast unknown
Since they have entered there;
To follow them were not so hard,
Wherever they may fare.
They cannot be where God is not,
On any sea or shore;
Whate'er betides, thy love abides,
Our God, forevermore."

We congratulate the Grand High Priest on the conservative manner in which he exercised his power of granting and

refusing dispensations. We believe that one of the dangers threatening our ancient landmarks is the prodigal use of this power by some who possess it. It has a bad effect in many instances upon those who ask it, and eventually they learn to disregard the established usages and customs and conclude that if for any reason—convenient or otherwise—they desire to change, all they need do is to request and secure a dispensation.

A rather novel proposition and question is raised under the head of decisions, which will be better understood by quoting.

"No questions of law were asked but such as were answered by direct citations, and are not, therefore, worthy of mention here. There is, however, one instance of this character in which I have some doubts as to the correctness of my conclusions. I was asked by the High Priest of Okolona Chapter, No. 27, 'What length of residence in the jurisdiction of a Chapter is required of a minister before he can petition the Chapter for the degrees?' Upon examination I came to the conclusion that he might apply after a six months' residence, although a twelve months' residence is required of other persons. It has been decided by several Grand High Priests that there is no exception in favor of ministers. While I am still inclined, after a closer scrutiny of the subject, to believe my conclusion is correct, I have some doubts. Section 22 of the Regulations begins as follows: 'No Chapter shall confer the degrees upon any candidate whose fixed place of abode has not been within its jurisdiction for twelve months next before making application.' This would seem to settle it, but the same section concludes as follows: 'The words "fixed place of abode" are understood to be synonymous with the legal residence under the laws of this State.' Now the laws of the State make an exception in favor of ministers by permitting them to register and vote after a six months' residence. This, I am inclined to believe, makes six months' residence the permanent place of abode so far as ministers are concerned, provided they are citizens of the State, and would entitle them to apply to the nearest Chapter. Any other view will deny the privileges of joining the Royal Craft to many good and true men. Many reside in the same place only one year, at the expiration of which time they must necessarily change their homes. This is especially true as to those of the Methodist persuasion, and to such becomes a bar to their Masonic aspirations. If you shall conclude that my doubts are superior to my judgment, I earn-

estly recommend that said Section 22 be amended by adding to it the following proviso: '*Provided*, that Ministers of the Gospel, after a residence of six months within the jurisdiction of a Chapter, if a citizen of the State, may petition for and, if elected, receive the degrees.' "

The spirit manifested in the Grand High Priest's address on the Masonic Home was of such character that it deserves a widespread circulation among the Companions generally, and is as follows:

"When it was determined to build a Home for widows and orphans of Masons, it was arranged to place it under the joint control and management of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery. But on the assembling of the several bodies in Natchez in 1893, it was, after mature deliberation, deemed best to leave it under the exclusive management and control of the Grand Lodge. This was unanimously agreed to by each body. Subsequent experience demonstrated the wisdom of this action. But, Companions, this does not release the Grand Chapter or its subordinate Chapters from further interest or obligation. Nor does it free them from their duty as Masons to assist in this grand work. It is as dear to Chapters and Commanderies as to the Lodges. We have no desire to erect a miserable little poorhouse where small charities will be doled out in dribbles, and where the children of our loved and lost may eke out a regretful existence. We desire and must have an elegant home, supplied with all the comforts of life, where the occupants will feel that they are indeed in their fathers' house, receiving all the attention and care a prudent father would give to his own children, and should have the best training of head, heart and hand it is possible to provide, thus preparing them, when they reach manhood's estate, to be released from the home as accomplished young gentlemen and ladies, fully equipped for any station in life to which they may aspire or be called. With less than this no Mason should be satisfied. With the progress and auspicious beginning made by the Grand Lodge, I see no reason why the Mississippi Home should not vie with any other institution of the kind wheresoever located. If all Masonic bodies would unite in earnest and determined effort, eschewing all jealousies, bickerings and rivalries, except that 'noble and generous contention as to who can best work and best agree,' it will only be a short time until the Home will be pointed to as a monument to the bounty and enterprise of the Freemasons of Mississippi. Let the business affairs of bodies, whether Grand or subordinate, be managed with the same prudence, tact, energy and strict economy that is expected of successful business men, and the end of each year will disclose a fat surplus which should be immediately remitted to the Orphans' Home.

If this shall be done, in a dozen years or less, instead of a poorhouse, we will have a Home where not only the necessaries of life but all the luxuries will abound. Do not consider this optimistic and "pass by on the other side,' but unite and work together, with the assurance that this so-called optimism will ripen into full fruition, grand and beautiful. Never permit pessimism to work its frightful doubts into head or heart.

"The Home is our cross—a blessed cross. Let us bear it with brave hearts and cheerful hands. The Master said, 'Deny yourself, take up the cross and follow me.' The devil will say, 'Supply yourself, drop the cross and follow me.' Which invitation, Companions, shall we accept? The first leads to future happiness and unto life eternal in the realms of life and light where God Himself rules and blesses; the latter leads to everlasting woe in the bottomless pit over which his Satanic Majesty presides, to persecute and punish in the unquenchable fire of eternal damnation. Permit me to dictate our answer. 'We will deny ourselves, take up the cross and follow Him.' Do this and the 'Great I Am' will bless us now and evermore."

The Grand High Priest is evidently impressed by the ritual issued by the General Grand Chapter and adopted by the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, but not favorably, as is manifested from the following:

"The double-barreled ritual issued by the General Grand Chapter, and which has been adopted by this Grand Chapter, is a good book for reference, but is absolutely worthless for use in learning the work and lectures. Not one in a hundred can glean anything from it. It differs from the severest Chinese puzzle in this, the puzzle once solved is very simple, but the more the ritual is studied the more confusion becomes confounded. A dozen Philadelphia lawyers, one half or whom are standing on their heads, cannot commit it to memory in a lifetime. Nearly all Chapters constituent to the General Grand Chapter have a reprint of this wonderful work in a straight and sensible form, from which their members may qualify for the work, and yet unintelligible to the uninitiated. With such a book the work in this jurisdiction would be wonderfully improved. In a short time, in my opinion, we would have good working Chapters. We are now spending much money with a free hand, with apparently no material benefits. I, therefore, earnestly recommend that a ritual be prepared and printed with all the speed possible, and suggest that the ritual published by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, the one now in use, be taken as a model. The esoteric work should be the same type of cipher as is now used in that book, with

all notes and instructions printed in full, but in red ink. The Companions may then qualify themselves in their idle times and enjoy it as a recreation. Otherwise we must go on as now, *ad infinitum*, and accomplish nothing. Candidates should be so handled and the attention of the members so fixed that they would enjoy the degrees for their own sakes, and not as a gate through which to reach 'something better.' Royal Arch Masonry is really what it claims to be—'sublime!' Will you adopt the recommendation?"

Regarding which the Committee on Ritual reported endorsing the recommendation of the Grand High Priest, and recommending that a Committee be appointed to prepare a suitable ritual similar to those now in use in the Grand Commandery, and submit the same to the Grand Chapter at the next annual meeting.

Healthy, honest, earnest criticism is always commendable, and while it may create sore spots at the time will eventually result in doing great good, and the brief lecture of the Grand High Priest to the High Priests of the subordinate Chapters deserves mention, viz.:

"From information and personal observation, I fear High Priests are not only ignorant of the laws governing the Royal Craft, but imagine a knowledge of the ritual, which very few possess, is all-sufficient as a qualification for the high office with which their Companions have honored them. This is a very inaccurate conception of the institution. Every Companion obligates himself, before he can be exalted to the Royal Arch degree, to obey the Constitution, statutes, rules and regulations of the Order and the By-Laws of the Chapter of which he may be a member. In addition to this, at the time of installation High Priests solemnly obligate themselves to see them obeyed, and when necessary to enforce obedience. How can they do this unless they acquire a sufficient knowledge of the law?

"It is their sworn duty to inform their less informed Companions as well in the law as the work. Excellent Companions, get a move on you and do your duty, without equivocation, hesitation or reservation. You cannot with reason plead ignorance of the law, whatever excuses you may have as to the work. The Grand Chapter furnishes all the law in good form, printed in language so simple that any one who can read may understand. Read up!"

The Grand Lecturer's report consists of a statement of about seventy-five visits made by him to the various Lodges, where he spent from one to three days on each visit, indicating the attendance, the interest manifested, the character of work done by the Companions and the amount collected for the Masonic Home.

The Grand Secretary in his report says:

"Up to the date of closing this report, thirty-six Chapters had made their returns and paid dues; five other Chapters had made returns and paid a portion of their dues; four additional Chapters had made returns and paid no dues. Besides this eleven Chapters made their returns, but up to the date of closing this account had not corrected errors of more or less magnitude, leaving thirteen Chapters which had not made their returns or paid dues up to the 10th day of February. Doubtless some returns or paid dues will be heard from them a little later on, or when the spirit moves them."

Notwithstanding the entire Proceedings are charged with the spirit of "unexampled prosperity in all branches of Masonry," we find a roll of fifty-six Chapters in the Grand Jurisdiction of Mississippi under the title of "defunct Chapters," and some of these are in communities and towns of such magnitude that this fact creates in us a feeling of surprise.

Under the head of "Returns of Subordinate Chapters" for the year ending December 27, 1906, there are thirty-seven pages of matter indicating the number and location of each Chapter, together with the officers and time of stated Convocations, with a list of Past Officers, members, those exalted during the year, those suspended, reinstated, and those who died.

We deem the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of sufficient interest and importance to quote liberally from the Introduction, prepared by Grand Secretary Frederick Speed.

"For twenty-five years, beginning with 1880, Companion Phineas M. Savery wrote these reports, and when, on the 20th day of December, the Angel came and laid his icy fingers on his heart and it ceased its beating forever, he had begun the preparation of his twenty-sixth report, and with the assistance of his stenographer, Miss Florence Wylie, had selected his clippings and prepared his statistical information for part of the States. After his death Miss Wylie placed in order his selections. These were sent to me, with directions from the Grand High Priest to complete his report, which I find to be a somewhat difficult task, because I desire, as far as possible, that this should be the report of Companion Savery; but as he had made no clippings from a number of States and no comments whatever upon the Proceedings of others, and the extracts made by him will consume all of the space which could be devoted to those States, I have inserted them without comment. Where Companion Savery did not make the preliminary report, which he did not do of a number of States, I have taken them up and made the review. Perhaps the ear-marks will be sufficiently plain without otherwise indicating what was Companion Savery's work and that which is mine, but I wish it may be understood that all that is good in this report shall be credited to Companion Savery, and the defects charged up to my account.

"I never before attempted to write one of these reports, and although I cannot plead the excuse that the work is altogether new to me, having assisted several Brethren in their preparation of them by contributing my views on special topics, I cannot say that I have supreme faith in my capacity in this particular direction. In the first place, perhaps, I am lacking in one of the most essential qualifications, which is that I am doubtful as to their utility, at least as at present constructed. As an original proposition, I would have excluded from the text a great deal of routine material which it has become customary to incorporate, as, for instance, statistical and financial matters which are of no interest to Companions beyond the jurisdiction from which they originate and which might be better in a tabulated form. Nor would I repeat for the edification of the Craft the platitudes in which many of the presiding officers of Grand Chapters think it essential to indulge in their addresses. By this I mean to say, I would not repeat from the Monitor paragraghs which are entirely familiar to every Companion, nor would I report those matters which are purely of local interest and pertain to the government and mere routine of each Grand Chapter. Upon the whole, I think it would be better if these reviews covered only those points of interest in the proceedings of the Grand Chapters which have a practical bearing upon the Craft at large. In some respects a topical report would probably be more interesting reading and read by a larger number of Masons. Of course it would require more labor and consequent wear and tear of the gray matter of the author. Without criticising what has been done, and is

being done, in the line of these reports, I must say that they are not especially interesting, and it requires a good deal of patience and perseverance to get at the kernel of wheat which is buried in the immense body of chaff they contain, and I believe that it is for this reason that so few of the Brethren read them. I frequently urge Brethren not only to read these reports, but also to read the Masonic periodical literature of the day. The reply is that they do not interest me. While it is somewhat of a problem as to what would interest these Brethren, it is certain that a mere recital of the purely routine business of a Grand Chapter is as dry as husks to even the most enthusiastic of us; and when it comes to those whose interest is yet to be developed, it is not very edifying to be told how much money there has been collected during the year, disbursed or the balance left in the treasury, which is doubtless very important information to the Grand Chapter concerned; that the Chapter at Red Town passed a resolution to confer degrees upon an aspiring genius who could by no possibility wait and come in according to the regular and lawful methods, or that Section 1592 of the laws with which that particular Grand Chapter is burdened authorized a dispensation to elect and install officers. These things, and others of like import, offer about as dry reading as the index to the Congressional Globe; therefore, I say, if it were an original Proposition, I would exclude all such matters and endeavor to find something in the proceedings having a bearing upon the general welfare of the Craft, enunciating a Masonic principle or something which goes towards making up the unity of Masonry. But as I am merely completing another work already planned out for me, I shall have to follow the regular path and therefore do not expect to make this book of absorbing interest. Nobody but the printer and proofreader will be forced to read it, and therefore it will not pay to interject very much of myself, although I shall probably find in the hundreds of pages piled up before me some things in which I will not agree and others which I can commend in the way of comment, and as it will not pay to make any innovations, the plan I shall pursue will be as heretofore practiced."

While the Committee in this Grand Jurisdiction do not pursue the course suggested by Companion Speed, yet, speaking for myself, I agree that the suggestions made are worthy of serious, earnest consideration by all interested in such work.

The review of the Pennsylvania Proceedings covers about three pages, in which is interjected a decision of our Grand High Priest to the effect "that it is not lawful for a Chapter

hall to be used for social purposes, nor can a Chapter hold such a meeting anywhere at which there is present any except Royal Arch Masons; neither can the funds of the Chapter be used to defray expenses for refreshments for a mixed company," suggesting

"that it may be good Pennsylvania law, but it seems to be opposite to the principles of Masonry, that it is a social and fraternal organization. If Chapters cannot have any social affairs it reduces them to the level of a Quaker meeting; which, of course, is all very well for Quakers, but which does not seem to be consistent, for Masonry is not and never was, and we hope it never will be, merely for the purpose of conferring degrees; and if it were, it would soon degenerate into a very stupid affair, something which after a short time would cloy. The one sufficient apology for the Mystic Shrine is the fact that Lodges and Chapters have abandoned the 'Table Lodge,' which formerly was a distinctive character at all their meetings, and is to this day in England and other foreign countries. We believe that Lodge and Chapter rooms are to be used exclusively for Masonic purposes, but fail to see that any possible harm could come to the Craft through the introduction into them, under proper restraint, of the wives and daughters of Masons, and especially in those apartments adjoining the Lodge rooms which should be in connection with every Masonic building."

With which principle I am sure the Grand Chapter and subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction have no contention, and if Companion Speed would avail himself of an opportunity to visit the Convocations of either the Grand or our subordinate Chapters he would discover that social affairs are by no means neglected, and that instead of attending a Quaker meeting he would find a spirit of good fellowship and sociability such as cannot be discounted in Mississippi or any other State.

John S. Brooks, Grand High Priest.
Frederick Speed, Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## MISSOURI.

The Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri was held at

St. Louis, April 23 and 24, 1907. The Grand Officers were all present except the E. Grand Master of the Third Vail. There were also in attendance seventy-one High Priests, fifty-one Kings, thirty-seven Scribes, representing in person or by proxy the one hundred chartered Chapters in the jurisdiction, as well as thirteen Past Grand High Priests and thirty Past High Priests not Representatives. There were twenty-eight Chapters not represented.

The Proceedings, including the "Report on Fraternal Correspondence," fill a very creditable volume of 303 pages, facing the first of which is a splendid picture of Tandy Allison Dunn, Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons of Missouri, 1906 and 1907.

The annual address of the Grand High Priest covers fourteen pages of the Proceedings and is a carefully prepared, straightforward statement of his administration of the trust committed to his care and keeping. The honesty and sincerity of which is found in the following:

"In presenting to you a report of what has been done in my official capacity, it is with a feeling that perhaps some things could have been better done and some things ought to have been done that were not. I have the approbation of my own conscience that I have in all cases tried to act for the best interests of Capitular Masonry, and if mistakes have been made they have been of the mind and not of the heart. . . . . One year ago you honored me with this exalted office, a position that any one of our Grand Jurisdiction might feel proud to occupy, and it will ever be to me an oasis in life's memory, a green spot amid partial successes and failures, joys and sorrows, sunshine and shadow, which make up the lives of us all.

"In returning to you the gavel, an emblem of power, which I will shortly do, I trust it may be done without stain of arbitrary use, and for my Brethren and Companions' sake I will now say, 'Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces.' "

How the annual address is received by the Grand Chapter is evidenced in the report of the Committee to which it was referred, as follows:

"We congratulate the Grand High Priest upon his able and elegant address and the prosperity of the Craft under his administration."

Every branch and feature of the Grand Chapter affairs is covered in the Grand High Priest's address. No matter seems to have been too small to receive his attention, and none too large to cause any hesitation in his consideration and disposition of it, and how well and satisfactorily he did his work is evidenced by the report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances:

"The Committee on Appeals and Grievances begs leave to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, nothing having been referred to us for our consideration, and we can only offer our sincerest congratulations to this Grand Body and express the hope that this condition of affairs may continue through the years to come."

From the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer, the Grand Chapter is in a fairly flourishing condition. Number of Companions December 31, 1906, is 10,335; while the net gain—393—for the year is not great in numbers, "but let us bear in mind that numbers is not always strength."

Balance on hand April 23, 1907, $16,649.66, a net gain of $939.00 during the year.

Consideration of the Masonic Home at St. Louis covers eight pages. Its financial condition is good, having an endowment fund of $106,315.94 safely invested. The Home is doing a great work and forcibly calls to mind the teachings of the M. M. degree. Its inmates April 1, 1907, were as follows; Men, 42; women, 34, boys, 41; girls, 43.

The one dark cloud on the otherwise pure and clear sky of the Grand Chapter of Missouri appears on page 46 under the title of "Mayo Investigation." At its Convocation in April, 1906, the Grand Chapter ordered an investigation of the books of Past Grand Secretary Mayo, report on which

by the first four Grand Officers was submitted by the Grand High Priest, which evidently was not to the credit of the Past Grand Secretary, as a motion was adopted to the effect that the report be not printed in the Proceedings, and that the incoming Grand Scribe be directed to prefer in Missouri Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, charges of unmasonic conduct against Companion Mayo, and that an auditor for the accounts be appointed. Discussing which report, Companion Mayo said, "Certainly, for the honor of this Grand Chapter, they will not publish it."

Companion Mayo requested a copy of the report, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to forward it to him; but on consideration,

"when he has been threatening to institute a civil action for damages in the courts against certain members of the Grand Chapter, his request was denied. It was denied also for the reason that on a trial in Missouri Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, said report would not be evidence."

The report of the Committee on Necrology is interesting and a well-prepared document, covering nine pages of the Proceedings. In addition to their own illustrious dead, they refer briefly and in fitting terms to those who during the last year have crossed into the Great Beyond in eighteen other Grand Jurisdictions, closing with:

"By long and faithful services these illustrious Companions won the confidence and esteem of those who knew them best. They have not labored in vain, and though they rest from their labors they still live in lives made better by their example and counsels. But they fell asleep in a larger hope of life beyond the vail. May it be their high privilege to look with undimmed gaze upon Him who appeared to Moses in the burning bush!"

The Grand Lecturer system seems to have been the source of some interesting discussion. A Committee was appointed which submitted majority and minority reports, which was compromised by the adoption of the following:

"Report adopted. Amended Article VIII.

"Sec. 50. Duties. The Grand Lecturer shall have in special charge the work as approved by this Grand Chapter. He shall see that no other work is taught or practiced in this Grand Jurisdiction. By a written notice to the High Priest, mailed in a sealed envelope under the United States postal regulations at least ten days before the date fixed, he may cause to be convened any Chapter in the jurisdiction for instruction and inspection. Failure of any Chapter to be inspected or instructed shall work a forfeiture of its charter, at the option of the Grand High Priest or of the Grand Chapter.

"Sec. 51. Annual Report. He shall annually make a report to the Grand Chapter of all official duties performed by him, together with an abstract of the state of the work.

"Sec. 52. Compensation. The Grand Lecturer shall receive as compensation for his services the sum of twenty-five hundred ($2,500.00) dollars per annum, paid on voucher check drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, duly approved by the Grand High Priest."

The Committee on Chapters U. D. present the following unusual condition:

"In the case of Odessa Chapter, Odessa, Mo., dispensation was issued January 16, 1906, by Companion Nathan J. Swetland, then M. E. Grand High Priest. No business having been done by the Chapter, the 1906 Convocation of this Grand Chapter continued said dispensation in force until this present Convocation.

"Odessa Chapter has been unable to get a quorum at any time since the last Convocation of this Grand Chapter, and the dispensation has been returned to the Grand Secretary. We find that the fee for this dispensation was paid from the personal funds of Companion William D. Barclay. We recommend that no charter be issued to Odessa Chapter and the dispensation fee be returned to Companion Barclay."

Another condition, which we hope is generally unusual, is found in the report of the Committee on Returns of Chapters, especially so considering the number of chartered Chapters and numbers in the Grand Jurisdictions, viz.:

"We find dues reported unpaid in the various subordinate Chapters on December 31, 1906, amount to $14,756.55, and that nine Chapters fail to report this item. We think that this is a deplorable condition, and we recommend that the subordinate Chapters should be urged to collect

unpaid dues, and keep them collected. Two Chapters, Nos. 10 and 33, report all dues paid.

We do not think such a condition would be tolerated in this Grand Jurisdiction. In fact, we know it would not in any of the subordinate Chapters in our parts; it would be remedied by a rigid enforcement of the By-Laws or suspension for non-payment of dues; and if the subordinate Chapters of the Grand Jurisdiction of Missouri have no such By-Laws, we would suggest an early consideration and adoption of such regulation, and thereby correct such "deplorable condition" and insure against it in the future.

Section 306 of Article 28 of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter was amended, requiring the King and Scribe of subordinate Chapters to receipt for rituals, and agree that they would not make or cause or suffer to be made a copy of the cipher or any portion thereof; that they would not use the cipher in opening or closing or conferring degrees, or suffer it to be done; that they would not suffer the cipher to be out of their charge; that they would deliver to their successors in office the said cipher, taking receipt therefor in duplicate, one copy of which was to be transmitted immediately to the Grand Secretary; that they would consider these pledges binding upon them under penalty of suspension.

A memorial page is set apart to the memory of "Our Fraternal Dead" from other Grand Jurisdictions, bearing the inscription, "They were good men and true."

Two pages are set apart to Grand High Priests who died during 1906, bearing the glad tidings, "They have wrought their regular hours and are entitled to wages."

Ten pages of the Report on Fraternal Correspondence are taken up with a brief of the Pennsylvania Grand Chapter Proceedings for the years 1905 and 1906, which is a full and

interesting review of our Quarterlies and Annuals for those two years, a full understanding of which could better be secured by an examination of the original volume.

The entire Report on Fraternal Correspondence is prepared by E. Companion Robert F. Stevenson and is unquestionably work well done. If we cannot agree with him in all of his arguments and conclusions he certainly invites and holds our attention, as, for instance, under Western Australia, 1906, he says:

"Pennsylvania got her breeches down, by giving as a reason for non-recognition the fact that the new Grand Chapter of Western Australia had not obtained the allegiance of all the Chapters in the territory. The Grand Scribe E. gets back at them with the doctrine that when as many as three bodies combine and declare their supremacy, they are entitled to recognition. He then cites the action of Pennsylvania Grand Lodge as to the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, wherein all the Scotch Lodges and two Irish Lodges refused to join; further, to the action of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in the case of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, where conditions were similar."

Grand High Priest, David M. Wilson.
Grand Secretary, Robert F. Stevenson.

R. E. U.

## MONTANA, 1906.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Royal Arch Masons of Montana was held in the Chapter Room of the Masonic Temple of Helena, September 18, 1906. All of the Grand Officers were present, and on report from the Grand Secretary that all Chapters had made returns and paid dues and that more than a constitutional quorum was present, the Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by the Grand High Priest, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

An account of the proceedings is contained in a neat pamphlet of 162 pages, introduced by a splendid photograph

of the retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, followed by an interesting biographical sketch, with particular reference to his Masonic career.

The Grand High Priest opened his address as follows:

"A general welcome from the East salutes ye all; this day is dedicated to fair content and you."

He introduces the memorial part of his address with:

" 'I possess,' said the Stoic, 'a treasure which not all the world can rob me of—no one can deprive me of death.' We must remember that everything around us is in mutation; decay follows reproduction and reproduction decay, and it is useless to repine at death in a world where everything is dying, but it is meet that we hold departed Companions in living remembrance; they have all left an heritage to the full measure of what each believed to be his duty."

One new Chapter was created, Glasgow, U. D., the Grand High Priest attending at the first meeting and witnessing the conferring of the degrees. The only dispensation mentioned as having been granted, except, I believe, for the constitution of Glasgow Chapter, was issued on the same date, May 26, 1906, to Glasgow Chapter U. D., to ballot upon petitions and to confer the degrees forthwith from Mark Master to and including the Royal Arch, the reasons given for which are:

"To, as soon as possible, secure nine members, residents of Glasgow, and to the end that I might witness the conferring of the degrees, and thus develop where instruction was necessary."

Among the decisions noted the following is considered of interest to the Companions of this Grand Jurisdiction:

"*Q.* Can a Chapter legally confer more than one degree in one meeting? *A.* Yes; but not on the same person; if on same person dispensation must be asked for and granted by the Grand High Priest. See Article IX, Section 7 of Constitution, Proceedings of 1903, page 91."

Bearing on which finding the Grand High Priest says:

"This Grand Chapter has no specific law controlling the number of degrees that may be conferred upon a candidate during one Convocation. The existing law on this subject is as follows:

" 'He (the Grand High Priest) shall have power to grant a dispensation to confer more than one degree upon a candidate during the same evening.' Article IX, Section 7 of Constitution.

" 'Each candidate before advancement must be proficient in the preceding degree, which proficiency must be proved by examination in such manner as the Chapter may provide.' Part of Section 6 of Article XX of Constitution.

"I am satisfied that these laws are, in general, in this jurisdiction, 'more honored in the breach than in the observance.' They do not appear to be practical in application. Candidates frequently live at places remote from the home of the Chapter, and this condition suggests the wisdom of their repeal or modification. If retained, the necessary section should be added to Article XVII of the Constitution, as the basis of the quoted paragraph and 'proficiency' should be defined.

"I recommend that the matter be referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, with instructions to report emendations or amendments to the Constitution."

Regarding which the Committee on Jurisprudence, to which the matter was referred, report: "We recommend that Section 7 of Article IX be eliminated from the Constitution." The article reads as follows: "He shall have power to grant a dispensation to confer more than one degree during the same evening," which would doubtless leave the matter, as we think it should be, in the discretion of the High Priest and other officers of the subordinate Chapter.

The Grand High Priest visited officially but two Chapters during the year—Virginia Chapter, No. 1, and Deer Lodge Chapter, No. 3—at both of which he was cordially received and entertained in a manner befitting his exalted rank. On the question of visitations he says:

"I greatly regret that my personal affairs prevented other visitations. I would willingly have visited, and fully expected to visit, all Chapters of the jurisdiction, but was prevented by circumstances over which I had not the slightest control."

The Capitular Jurisdiction of Montana contributed $475.00 towards the relief fund of the San Francisco disaster of April, 1906.

Regarding the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter held in the city of Boston, Mass., June 19, 20, 21, the Grand High Priest, *inter alia*, says:

"It was an assembly of distinguished men and Masons, coming from every State save two, fully aware of the dignity of their station; eager in their cultivation of friendships; earnest in their endeavor to promote the welfare of the Royal Craft; with no thought of the possession of, or the desire to assume, powers and prerogatives over its constituents. It was a brotherly meeting of brotherly men, and all who were in attendance must have felt its uplifting influence."

A very commendable spirit is manifested in the conclusion of the Grand High Priest's address, viz.:

"Companions, it has been impossible for me to perform all of my constitutional duties, but it was from no lack of interest or of appreciation of the high honor you have bestowed upon me: for my shortcomings I crave your indulgence, believing that you will not unwillingly accept the statement that well-laid plans were by causes beyond my control overthrown, and too late to assign the duties to another.

"As the Israelities of old made their pilgrimages to the Temple to offer up their sacrifices and devotion to Jehovah, so we meet in Annual Convocation in recognition of our belief in this same Divine presence with us; that we may enjoy the benefits arising from fraternal association; that we may be inspired to exert our utmost efforts in the service of the Royal Craft.

"I suggest as our watchwords for the coming year, 'Fervency and Zeal,' and permit me to express the hope that the days between this and our next assembly may be to each replete with happiness."

The report of the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers shows the regard and esteem the Grand Chapter had for their Grand High Priest:

"We certainly recommend the character and form of the address and the diligence with which the Grand High Priest attended to the routine duties of his office, but we deeply regret that circumstances were such as to render it impossible for him to visit more of the subordinate Chapters."

There is contained in the Proceedings a list of the Chapters, together with the date of their charters, the time of their meetings, a list of their membership, together with a list of the exaltations, dismissals and reinstatements. A recapitulation shows the net gain in membership during the year to be eighty-five.

On the fraternal pages mention is made and noted of nineteen Grand Jurisdictions, among which Pennsylvania is not noted.

The Report of the Committee on Capitular Correspondence is largely of the character of our review of their Proceedings, little else than a statement of what actually occurred in the various Grand Chapters, set forth largely by extracts from the Proceedings. Pennsylvania for 1905 receives less than two pages. Their report is the work of Companion Cornelius Hedges.

A very interesting part of the Report of the Committee on Correspondence is a digest of decisions in the Proceedings reviewed, covering eight pages in the back of the book, among which we find four from our own Grand Jurisdiction.

L. Benton Leggett, Grand High Priest.

Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary.

R. E. U.

## NEBRASKA, 1906.

The Fortieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska met in Free Masons' Hall at Omaha, Wednesday, December 12, 1906. There were present the Grand Officers and Representatives from forty-one of the fifty-five chartered Chapters.

The address of the Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion William W. Wright, is brief but interesting and laden with

zeal, devotion and earnestness, as manifested in the Introduction, viz.:

"By the resistless tide of time we are borne to the close of another Capitular year, and with grateful hearts and becoming reverence to the Great I Am, we have been permitted to assemble together for the Fortieth Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, and I am most happy to extend to all the members thereof a very cordial welcome to this Annual Convocation. Let us pause for a moment at the beginning of this our meeting, to pay the homage and reverence we owe to our God for the many blessings we have received from Him during the past year. Our lives have been precious in His sight, and He has again permitted us to assemble around our consecrated altar, and there offer up our thanksgiving for His protecting care during another year. We have great cause for the rendering of thanks to the Most High for the many evidences of material prosperity which He has continued to bestow upon us as a body. Our relations with other Grand Chapters continue to be of the most cordial and pleasant nature. Peace and harmony prevail within our borders, and it has been my good fortune not to have had any question arise which in any way might tend to disturb the fraternal peace which should at all times characterize us as Companions.

"We assemble here surrounded by all things that combine to make us happy and contented. Prosperity in the State and nation abound in a marked degree. Heaven has smiled bounteously on our real harvest fields, and our granaries are so filled with golden grain that our garners require larger storage capacity. The pestilence that walketh in darkness and that recently ravaged a portion of our fair land has abated its fury and been dispelled by healthful sunshine. God in His infinite wisdom has dealt with us not according to our merits, but in great kindness and tender mercy. We each owe Him for His love and compassion more than we can ever give. The Masonic year of Capitular Masonry, just closed in this jurisdiction, has been one in which there has been little except routine work to perform on my part, and my official acts have not been many nor of great importance."

The Grand High Priest exercised great care in the matter of granting special dispensations, for which we think he deserves great credit. He constituted one new Chapter, Rabboni, No. 58, and publicly installed the officers, at which a large number of Masons and Order of the Eastern Star were present.

To our mind the heart of the M. E. Grand High Priest of Nebraska is certainly in the right place, as is clearly evidenced by his action regarding King Darius Chapter, No. 36, viz.:

"At the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter the condition of King Darius Chapter, No. 36, at Indianola, Nebraska, was referred to the incoming Grand High Priest. Accordingly I took this matter up with the High Priest of this Chapter. The Chapter in a very short time paid its Grand Chapter dues. The High Priest of the Chapter urged me not to act in the matter of revoking their charter until after the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, as they had a petition for a Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons that would come up at that time, and he was convinced the same would be granted. I consented to wait until after the session of the Grand Lodge before I decided what to do. The Grand Lodge failed to grant their petition, and on the 19th of July I went to Indianola, Nebraska, with the intention of revoking their charter, as I am of the same opinion as M. E. Past Grand High Priest McGiverin, that no Chapter can exist where there is no Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. The week before, however, the Grand Master of Masons of Nebraska, Zwingle M. Baird, had been there and granted the Masons of Indianola a dispensation, and under the circumstances I did not feel justified in revoking their charter. I conversed with several of the Companions there, and all seemed to feel confident that their Chapter in the future would be prosperous, as there had been eliminated from both Chapter and Blue Lodge an element that had caused all their trouble."

He concludes his address as follows, which we deem worthy of a place in this review:

"I can only say, in conclusion, to the officers and members of the Grand Chapter, that I thank you for the honor you bestowed upon me one year ago. I am pleased to say that all, both officers and members, have at all times responded promptly when called upon for advice and assistance. I have endeavored to fill this high office to the best of my ability, bearing in mind at all times the dignity and honor of the station I was called upon to occupy by your generous suffrage, and I assure you it will be a source of great satisfaction to me to remember that I was permitted to preside over the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction. I am now ready to take my place among you again, and assist in any way I can for the advancement of truth and righteousness on earth, and by precept and example impress all with the great truth of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."

The Report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance on hand of $4,575.37.

During the year 1906 there have been in the Nebraska Masonic Home twelve women, fifteen men, three boys and one girl. The total membership of Royal Arch Masons in the Grand Jurisdiction of Nebraska November 1, 1906, was 3,773, a net gain during the year of 140.

After discussing the generally satisfactory condition of affairs, the Grand Lecturer makes a pertinent statement, as follows:

"One thing that would add greatly to the encouragement of the Chapters and officers during each year would be a visit from some of the Grand Officers. The officers and Companions are always pleased to have any of the Grand Officers visit them; they usually enjoy occasions of this kind, and it has much to do in reviving an interest in their Chapters."

The formal Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is devoted exclusively to a consideration of the application of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Western Australia for recognition, and after a number of general statements proceeds:

"The new Grand Chapter of Western Australia was organized in strict accord with every rule governing such an organization known to Masonic jurisprudence. Its organization, and the circumstances surrounding it, have been discussed quite generally in other Grand Chapters, by the Masonic press, and by reviewers in their fraternal correspondence reports, and no one has suggested that there was the slightest variance from the established custom in its proceedings.

"Recognition by her sister Grand Chapters in Australasia, with one or two exceptions, has already been accorded, as it has by several of our American Grand Chapters, and its regularity and claims for recognition are quite generally conceded. The Grand Chapter of Scotland alone opposes, upon grounds entirely foreign to any ever considered as applicable by any American Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter seeking to impose new and unheard-of conditions.

"In our own country, and in the year 1797, Thomas Smith Webb and his associates, with delegates from Chapters in several States, each of which held authority from a chartered Lodge, with the consent of the

nearest Chapter, met at Boston, and considered the question, prepared an address to the Chapters in New England and New York, and in the next year, at Hartford, Connecticut, in January, 1798, organized the first Grand Chapter in this country. That example was soon followed in other parts of the United States. Now organized Royal Arch Grand and subordinate Chapters in the United States of America constitute the greater part of Capitular Masonry, as represented in distinctive organizations. American Grand Chapters have led the van in the establishment of its distinctive features, both in organization and in its jurisprudence.

"The new Grand Chapter of Western Australia in its organization having met every requirement that we make in the premises, we deem it our duty to, and we therefore do, recommend its recognition and the exchange of representatives therewith."

The following amendment to Paragraph 2 of Chapter 101 was introduced and lies over for consideration at the next Annual Convocation, viz.:

"In the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe of a Chapter at any meeting thereof, any Past High Priest present may congregate, open, and preside over such Chapters at such meeting, and all laws in conflict therewith are hereby repealed."

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence includes about seventy pages and, like our own, is made up largely of extracts and quotations from the Proceedings of Grand Chapters. To Pennsylvania for 1905 is devoted about two pages.

M. E. Robert W. McGinnis, Grand High Priest, Lincoln, Nebraska.

M. E. Francis E. White, Grand Secretary, Omaha, Nebraska.

R. E. U.

## NEVADA.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Nevada was held in Masonic Hall at Reno, June 10, 1907.

The Grand Officers, as well a number of Past Grand High Priests, were present. The Proceedings are printed in a neat pamphlet of about eighteen pages, with an Appendix of about thirty pages, containing a list of the Officers, Past Officers and Companions of each of the subordinate Chapters, together with memorial pages and lists of Representatives of other Grand Chapters near the Grand Chapter of Nevada, and of Representatives of the Grand Chapter of Nevada near other Grand Chapters, together with the Proceedings of the Grand Convocation of the Order of High Priesthood of the State of Nevada at its Fourteenth Annual Grand Convocation, at which little business was transacted other than the election and installation of officers for the ensuing year.

In a number of instances we have indicated our opinion regarding the too free use by Grand High Priests of granting dispensations, and we do not hesitate to indicate our disapproval of such action on the part of the Grand High Priest of Nevada. He says:

"September 29, 1906. After careful consideration I granted a special dispensation empowering Austin Chapter, No. 3, to meet in special Convocation on October 6, 1906; receive petitions for the degrees not exceeding six in number; refer same to Committee; receive reports of same; ballot on the petitions and confer the several degrees up to and including the Royal Arch upon such applicants as may have been elected, all at one and the same Convocation. I was induced to grant this dispensation for the reason that the membership of the Chapter has become so reduced and scattered, many of its members residing at great distances from its place of meeting, that it was deemed impossible to obtain a quorum for more than one Convocation to receive and act upon petitions for degrees. My action in this particular, although somewhat irregular, was in accord with an established precedent of this Grand Chapter, and certainly for the benefit of Austin Chapter and Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction. This Chapter, having been dormant for a number of years, its officers were not fully qualified for conferring degrees. I therefore personally convened the Chapter on the day named. Seven petitions from well-known citizens of Austin were presented, and the applicants were duly

elected. With the assistance of R. E. P. B. Ellis as Captain of the Host, John W. Wiggins as Principal Sojourner and Samuel S. Robinson as Royal Arch Captain, all members of Lewis Chapter, No. 1, I conferred the degrees of the Chapter upon six of the candidates, thus enabling the Chapter to obtain a quorum from the members residing at or in the immediate vicinity of its place of meeting."

The reason urged for such action may have been satisfactory to the Grand High Priest of Nevada, but we doubt not that the impression made on the candidates would have been more favorable had they been required to take the degrees in the usual way, and if they were imbued with the spirit of Capitular Masonry, as they should have been before taking the degrees, they would have been willing to make such sacrifices of time and money as would have been necessary in that regard. Such dispensations and such haste, in our opinion, tend to cheapen the Order and we unhesitatingly disapprove of such practice. We also notice that the Grand High Priest of Nevada granted at least two dispensations to elect officers at times other than those designated in the Constitution, which we also think is a mistake. If the Companions are not sufficiently interested in the Order to attend on the election at the times provided in the Constitution, we do not think dispensations should be granted authorizing elections at other times.

We appreciate and understand the spirit manifested in the conclusion of the address of the Grand High Priest when he says:

"Companions, my official acts have been placed before you. If in error I trust you will cast over them the broad mantle of true Masonic charity. As the time is now approaching for me to surrender the gavel of authority, I desire to express to you my sincere gratitude for the high honor you have conferred upon me, and though others have more worthily filled this high station, no one has more fully appreciated the honor of presiding over you. The duties of my office have not been arduous, but indeed a pleasure, made so by the kindly counsel and advice of our

efficient Grand Secretary, always ready, able and willing to render any assistance. 'Tis my earnest prayer, along with yours, that he be spared to us for many years, so that succeeding Grand High Priests may receive the benefit of his vast Masonic knowledge. I am now ready to take my place among you in the ranks, to do whatever I can in the upbuilding and maintenance of Royal Arch Masonry."

The Report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in cash on hand June 10, 1907, of $575.21.

The Report of the Committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand High Priest approves all his actions.

Reports of all the other Committees were of the general character and contain no matters of particular importance.

William L. Cox, Grand High Priest, Reno, Nevada.

C. N. Noteware, Grand Secretary, Reno, Nevada.

R. E. U.

## NEW BRUNSWICK, 1906.

The Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick was held at Freemasons' Hall in the city of St. John, August 29, 1906, the Proceedings of which are printed in a neat pamphlet of thirty-one pages, the principal part of which is taken up with the Grand High Priest's address, the Report of the Grand Secretary, showing a total membership as of December 31, 1905, of 547 Companions, and the Report of the Grand Treasurer, showing a balance in his hands of $496.21. It contains no Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

In his Introduction the Grand High Priest, after making general reference to the care that has been manifested towards and exercised over us during the past year, and making mention of calamities and wars and rumors of wars that have existed and taken place, says:

"In the Dominion of Canada we have had peace, harmony and pros-

perity. The western part of our great country is being opened up and becoming populated very quickly, and in the year has shown a vigorous and healthy advancement. One of the greatest problems of our vast 'Western Heritage' has been, and is, the efficient and rapid transportation of their produce to the seaboard, and our Province of New Brunswick, with its safe and commodious harbors, has made a strenuous effort to have these terminal facilities utilized by the projected lines of railways. The spirit of the unity of the Dominion should be quite sufficient as an advocate of our recognition in this respect, but I regret to say that sometimes patriotism has very little influence where there is a possibility of monetary or political or even personal interests being interfered with. We have not yet lost faith in the future, and look forward to the establishment of our harbors as some of the main shipping ports of the great Dominion."

A convincing evidence of the zeal and earnestness of the Grand High Priest is found in the fact that he visited every subordinate Chapter in his jurisdiction except one, and as a consequence is certainly in a position to discuss intelligently the "state of the Order," regarding which he says:

"I am happy to be able to say that the Chapters in this jurisdiction are all progressing favorably and that everything is moving along in perfect harmony. Our growth has not been large, but there has been an increase and we appear to be gradually getting stronger. The only complaint I hear is the difficulty, especially during certain seasons of the year, in getting satisfactory meetings; but this is not new in Capitular Masonry. The Craft do not generally take to Chapter work; it is only its enthusiastic members who do so. But we rejoice in having among us so many zealous and faithful Companions, who keep the incense of their example burning continuously on the altar of their Masonic lives."

The Grand High Priest expresses regret regarding the failure of the Grand Chapter of Scotland to recognize the Supreme Grand Chapter of Western Australia in the following language:

"This action is not surprising to us, for our Grand Chapter was similarly treated by them at its organization, and we have as yet been unable to obtain the courtesy of an interchange of Representatives with the Grand Chapter of Scotland. I observe that the Grand Chapter of Western Australia is gradually getting under its allegiance the subordinate Chapters

in that jurisdiction, and although it has not applied to us for fraternal recognition (which I hope we will not refuse if requested), an exchange of Representatives has been made between it and many sister Grand Chapters with whom we have most friendly relations. I think Grand Chapter will join with me when I say it is my hope, and I sincerely trust, that the Grand Chapter of Scotland will at an early date modify its opinion and courteously acknowledge the Grand Jurisdiction of our own, as well as that of the Grand Chapter of Western Australia, even although we may have trespassed on its membership by absorbing some of its subordinate bodies."

The Grand Chapter of Western Australia, while it has been recognized by a number of sister Grand Chapters, has not yet been recognized by the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The Report of the Committee on the Address of the Grand High Priest is a flattering approval of his actions, the opening paragraph of which is as follows:

"The Committee on the Address of the M. E. the Grand High Priest feels that Grand Chapter cannot fail to be interested in the general observations which are made by the Grand High Priest as regards affairs in our own and in other lands. While we may not accomplish much, should we endeavor to alter the current of events, and while as Royal Arch Masons we have a definite sphere of action, yet we all recognize the fact that the faithful performance of every task is an obligation from which we cannot be released. We must do our general duty as citizens, as well as our special duty as Royal Arch Masons, according to our light and our judgment, under the guidance of the Most High."

About the only business transacted by the Convocation of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of the Province of New Brunswick was the balloting on applications of Companions, the anointing and consecrating of those elected and the election and installation of officers for the ensuing year.

M. E. William B. Wallace, K. C., Grand High Priest, St. John, N. B.

R. E. J. Twining Hart, Grand Secretary, St. John, N. B.

R. E. U.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Eighty-seventh Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Freemasons of the State of New Hampshire was held in Freemasons' Hall in the city of Concord, on Tuesday, May 15, A.D. 1906, at eleven o'clock A.M., M. E. Grand High Priest Joshua W. Hunt presiding and the other Grand Officers occupying their respective stations and places. Nine Past Grand High Priests, forty-three Past High Priests, fifty-one Representatives of Chapters and twenty-eight visitors were present.

The Chapter was opened in Ample Form. After the appointment of the Standing Committees the Grand High Priest delivered his annual address. He extends to each and to all a fraternal greeting and a cordial welcome; congratulates them upon the prosperous condition of the Craft, and the peace and harmony that prevail throughout the jurisdiction. He pays loving tribute to those who have fallen from the ranks by death during the year. He apportioned the several Chapters in the jurisdiction among the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King. Grand Scribe and himself for official visitations during the year, which was done and a very satisfactory report made by each officer of the condition of the work in each Chapter. A Special Convocation was held on October 24, 1905, in Concord, when the ritualistic work of all the Capitular degrees was fully exemplified for the benefit of the entire jurisdiction. It was productive of good, arousing interest and enthusiasm in the work.

A new Chapter was chartered at Berlin.

The Committee on Chapters and Returns reported as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Chapters on roll | 25 |
| Number of Chapters making returns | 25 |
| Number of Chapters at Annual Convocation | 24 |
| Membership, 1905 | 3,820 |
| Membership, 1906 | 3,844 |
| Increase | 24 |
| Exalted | 152 |

The Treasurer reports a balance on hand of $990.14.

There is no Report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. E. Grand High Priest, William W. Oliver, Lisbon.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Frank D. Woodbury, Concord.

J. W. H.

## NEW JERSEY.

The Fifty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Freemasons of the State of New Jersey was held in the rooms of Three-Times-Three Chapter, No. 3, Trenton, May 15, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Companion Daniel C. Adams, Grand High Priest, presiding. All the Grand Officers present; also five Lecturers, nineteen Past Grand High Priests, thirty-five Past High Priests, forty-two Representatives of subordinate Chapters, and thirty-one of Grand Jurisdictions, Pennsylvania being among the number, and nine visitors from the Grand Jurisdiction of New York. After some preliminary business, the Grand High Priest delivered his address. He extends a hearty greeting to all present and gratitude to the Bountiful Giver of all blessings for the prosperity and happiness of the year just closing. Illness in his family prevented him from performing many Masonic duties and enjoying many Masonic pleasures and associations. He highly commends official inspection of sub-

ordinate Chapters by a Grand Lecturer; that it produces a marked improvement in the work and leads to uniformity throughout the jurisdiction. With tender sympathy he refers to the loved and lost of his own jurisdiction, and has the Lodge rise and remain standing while the names of the dead officials of the other Grand Jurisdictions are announced. Several dispensations were granted, for "good and sufficient reasons," to elect and install officers at other times than those prescribed by law. Under decisions he states a question which he refers to the Grand Chapter:

"What is the status of Companions from the Grand Jurisdiction of Scotland (or any other jurisdiction) who wish to visit Chapters in this jurisdiction, the Companions not having received the Past Master's degree, which is not required in the jurisdiction from whence they came?"

He concludes as follows:

"I desire to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the honor you conferred in electing me to the office of Grand High Priest. Whatever errors I have made, or what my shortcomings have been, I trust you will cover with the broad mantle of charity and brotherly love, for no man has the interest of the Craft more at heart."

The Grand Lecturer's report and those of his five assistants speak in highly commendable terms of the hearty welcome they received from all the Chapters and the general prosperity prevailing.

The Committee to whom was referred the applicant from Scotland reported as follows:

"Your Committee on Constitutions beg to recommend that Royal Arch Masons from Great Britain or elsewhere who have not received all four degrees, as required by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, who desire to visit or affiliate with Royal Arch Chapters in this jurisdiction, shall be required to take the obligation of such degrees which have not been conferred upon them, or to have the degrees conferred in ceremonial form, without fee."

The Grand Treasurer's report shows finances in good condition.

The Committee on Correspondence takes up 189 pages in reviewing forty-eight Grand Jurisdictions. Pennsylvania receives fair, friendly and impartial consideration in a little over three pages—just what would be expected from a good neighbor.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Jacob Kirkner.

M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Leonard L. Grear.

J. W. H.

## NEW YORK, 1906.

The One Hundred and Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York convened in the Masonic Temple in the city of Albany, commencing on Tuesday, February 5, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Derrick Brown, Grand High Priest, presiding, assisted by the other Grand Officers. Fourteen Past Grand High Priests and Representatives of subordinate Chapters made the total number 337. The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form with prayer offered by the Grand Chaplain. Representatives of Grand Chapters present were then admitted, and an address delivered by the Grand High Priest in part as follows:

"You are the links that join the Grand Chapter of the State of New York with the Grand Chapters you severally represent, and you also are here as loyal members of the Royal Craft of the State of New York, willing to show by your presence your allegiance to the Grand Body and your devotion to the Capitular Rite. You occupy no inferior position as Representatives. Sometimes I think that the Grand Representatives fail to appreciate fully the position they occupy. I think the Grand Representatives of New York are not alone in this. I have received but one communication from the Representatives of New York near other Grand Jurisdictions, asking me if New York had any interests which were

proper or necessary to bring before a sister jurisdiction. I think that is a thing that ought to be practiced by all Representatives of Grand Jurisdictions. It is fitting to ask the Grand High Priest if he has any interest which he wishes you to bring before the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and to express a willingness to look after the same."

After other greetings and responses by prominent Masons from other jurisdictions, the Grand High Priest, whose photograph embellishes the first page, delivered his address. It covers eight pages and is a very able presentation of the happenings in Masonry in the State during the year. He most fraternally and cordially welcomes them to the One Hundred and Tenth Convocation, their presence showing their interest in the welfare of the Craft throughout the State. He then refers to the ravages of death in his own and sister jurisdictions in the following words:

"The Great Grand High Priest, who presides over the destinies of men and nations, has dealt mercifully with our Grand Chapter during the year now closed and the ranks of its permanent membership have not been broken. At the same time 'that grim ferryman of which poets write' has piloted many members of our Fraternity across the melancholy river that separates time from eternity, and it is meet and proper that we should pause upon the very threshold of our duties to give a thought to their memory, to think who they were, how they lived and died and what they have left us. Many of them were strangers to most of us. All of them were strangers to some of us. Some of them were known to a few of us. All of them were bound by the ties of association or friendship or fraternity or kindred to those who knew them well, who stood side by side with them in life, who shared their joys and their sorrows, whose lives were brightened and whose burdens were lightened by their lives, and who mourned when the hand of Death touched them and beckoned them to the realm of the unknown—except so far as the eye of an abiding faith can penetrate the Great Beyond.

"If they were true to the obligations that they had taken at the sacred Altars of Freemasonry; if they lived in accordance with the principles and teachings of the ceremonials of this Fraternity, leading from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch; if in their lives they exemplified by thought, by word and by deed the sublime and beautiful tenets of this branch of Freemasonry, then indeed they need no tribute of words from my lips. Then the loftiest tribute, the noblest panegyric, and the highest

encomium that can be pronounced upon them are found in the words, 'They lived and died Royal Arch Masons.' Though gone they still speak to us that they were laborers in the same great field in which we are at work; that they listened to the same wise and suggestive instructions that we receive from the Royal Arch. Let us trust that those who were bound to them by all those ties that grow out of earthly existence and earthly relationships may gather either from reason or religion, or both, a philosophy that shall enable them to look beyond the pain and sorrow of separation and see the silver lining that lies back of every cloud. Rest to their bodies, Peace to their ashes, Bliss to their souls."

The Craft in general are in a prosperous condition. There are no manifestations of discord; peace and harmony generally prevailing. A better understanding of the fundamental law of the Order enables the officers of the several Chapters to easily adjust the differences of opinion that will inevitably arise among the Companions. A Companion gave his Mark to another Companion of the same Chapter to bind; the Companion receiving it saying that he would prevent an applicant for admission from being elected to membership. In reference to this action the Grand High Priest says:

"Such use of the Mark is entirely unwarranted, if not positively illegal, and it subverts the basic idea of what a Mark symbolizes. It is properly used as a means of identification, and it symbolizes a readiness and a willingness to furnish aid in time of distress. It is an honorable security for its own redemption at the proper time, and it teaches that we should never hastily refuse the application of a Brother, but we should furnish him with the common necessaries of life, should he need relief and we be in condition to furnish it. To use it as a pledge in an agreement to secure an adverse ballot is not only unwarranted by every consideration of what it symbolizes, but it subverts its purpose and destroys the value of its significance as a Royal Arch emblem."

Under the head of dispensations he speaks plainly, concisely and pointedly:

"There is a mistaken idea prevailing in some Chapters regarding the power of the Grand High Priest to grant dispensations. The power to

grant dispensations is one not to be exercised except to correct errors, relieve embarrassment, supply unavoidable omissions or to provide for emergencies that may have arisen by which the proper work of a Chapter may be interrupted or perhaps suspended. It is not a power granted for the purpose of setting aside the plain requirements of the Constitution, and the High Priest should not be asked to interpose to enable a Chapter to take action that is not warranted by the fundamental law. Some entertain the idea that a dispensation may issue in order that a Chapter may accommodate itself to the conditions surrounding a candidate for admission. This is an erroneous view of the scope of a dispensation, and I am of the opinion that the Royal Arch will stand higher in the esteem of a candidate, and he will entertain a better and more accurate conception of its dignity and worth, if he be given to understand that he must accommodate himself to the requirements of the law to the letter, rather than for the Chapter to show a disposition and a willingness to so shape its action as to conform to the convenience and accommodation of the candidate."

He then proceeds to give his idea of what Royal Arch Masonry really is:

"Royal Arch Masonry symbolizes the rough and rugged road over which all must pass to the attainment and possession of truth, and the teaching of the degree is that we must be willing to overcome obstacles, endure hardships, and brave dangers in our pathway through life, if we are to be found worthy of the rewards that await the faithful, the valiant, the sincere and the persevering. Therefore we should, as far as possible, avoid giving the impression that Royal Arch Masonry is a cheap institution, that we are so eager to increase the membership that we stand ready to make the road to advancement and exaltation as easy as possible, and that we are willing to set aside established forms, processes and usages in order that a candidate may find an unobstructed pathway to the sublimity of Masonry. Let us honor and respect our own laws by exacting a strict compliance with them by those who would come to us, be of us, and live among us."

The response to the San Francisco sufferers was $1,600.00 by the several Chapters in the jurisdiction. Of eleven waivers of jurisdiction granted on the request of the Grand High Priest six were from Pennsylvania, showing the fraternal relations existing between the two Grand Chapters. The following question was asked:

"A Companion whose Lodge had expelled him took an appeal to the Grand Master, who set aside the action of the Lodge. What effect did this action have on his standing in his Chapter? *Answer:* When a Lodge takes action in favor of expelling a member and he takes an appeal to the Grand Master, the question of expulsion is not settled until the Grand Master renders his decision on the appeal. If the decision of the Lodge be set aside, the Brother has not been expelled and he retains his membership in the Chapter."

A Chapter, under a proper order of business, balloted ten times on the application of a candidate, when the High Priest declared the candidate rejected. An officer of the Chapter asked for another ballot, which was granted, and the candidate was declared elected.

"*First Question:* Was the last ballot, taken after a declaration of rejection at the end of the tenth ballot, regular?

"*Answer:* Ten ballots having been taken on the application of a candidate, and at the conclusion of the tenth ballot the High Priest having declared the candidate rejected, it was irregular to take another ballot at any time during that Convocation.

"*Second:* The Constitution does not anticipate the calling for a new ballot except in cases where the candidate is elected. No provision is made calling for a new ballot when the candidate is rejected."

The Grand Treasurer reports:

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|---|---|
| General Fund | $25,519 74 |
| Permanent Fund | 23,476 57 |
| Grand total | $48,996 31 |

The Grand Secretary reports:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of members December 1, 1905 | 29,390 |
| Increase during 1906 | 1,719 |
| Total membership | 31,107 |

The Grand Lecturer gives a detailed report of his labors during the year, which shows that ritualistic work is generally well done and that commendable interest is manifested

throughout the jurisdiction. The reports of the various Committees cover twenty pages. They are full and complete, but treat of local affairs. High Priest Companion Brown, on being notified of his re-election, in a modest, chaste and appropriate address of thanks declined the honor. Space forbids quoting.

Grand Chaplain Rev. Pierre Cushing delivered an instructive address on "Lessons from the Degree of Most Excellent Master."

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence covers ninety-one pages. It reviews fifty-six jurisdictions, among which Pennsylvania receives fraternal consideration.

M. E. Companion Dana B. Pratt, New York, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Companion Christopher E. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina assembled in Fifty-ninth Annual Convocation in the Elks' Hall in the city of Greensboro, May 11, 1907, at eight o'clock P.M., and opened in Ample Form. The Grand Officers were all present, with eight Past Grand High Priests, two Past Grand Kings, one Past Grand Scribe, thirty-four Representatives from subordinate Chapters and twenty-five Grand Representatives from sister jurisdictions; Pennsylvania's representative, Past Grand High Priest H. G. Smallbones, being in the number. The Grand Chapter being opened in Ample Form, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Latimer Williams, read his address. He expresses gratitude and thanks for the prosperity that has attended them, Masonically and otherwise, during the year. He

tenderly refers to the ravages of death in sister jurisdictions, mentioning the jurisdictions and the Companions who have fallen, among them Companion William Charles Hamilton, Past Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania.

Under the head of "Decisions" we find the following:

"When a Mason or Masons are excluded from our Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues, can he or they still retain their good standing in our Chapter?

"*Answer:* Having carefully considered the point of law involved and after some delay, which I regret, I feel compelled, with the lights before me, to answer, Yes. My opinion in the matter is based on the following facts. Article 17, Section 8, page 43, Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, recently published, reads as follows: 'A suspension or expulsion for any reason by a Lodge of Master Masons is effectually a suspension or expulsion from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.' The law of the Grand Lodge, Article 13, Section 9, page 45, Masonic Code, 1897, reads as follows: 'No Lodge can rightfully suspend or expel a Mason for a disregard of any special regulations conditioned upon membership, such as non-payment of dues,' and other things unnecessary for me to mention being applicable to this case. As a member of a Lodge can only be excluded (not suspended) for non-payment of dues, it seems clear to me that he would not be affected by the law of the Grand Chapter, being neither suspended nor excluded. I have been unable to find anything in the laws of General Grand Chapter which controverts this idea. To sum up the matter, if exclusion by a Lodge for non-payment of dues is from membership only, which is undoubtedly so, a Mason's standing in his Chapter is not affected thereby; but if it is from all Masonic rights, which cannot be true, he loses, as in the case of suspension or expulsion, his standing as a Royal Arch Mason."

Nine dispensations were granted, most of them being to receive and ballot at the same meeting. The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the decision and dispensations were referred, reports as follows:

"We find that the dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest are violative of no principle of Masonic law. While we feel sure the reasons for granting the dispensations to ballot upon applications of candidates, without requiring them to lie over the usual time, were good and sufficient and within the prerogative of the Grand High Priest, we deplore the

necessity for this action, and desire to put on record our opinion that this privilege should never be granted to subordinate Chapters except for the most urgent reasons."

On the decision rendered, after discussing the difference between "excluded" and "suspended," they report:

"The distinction between exclusion and suspension is a very delicate one. We are of the opinion that exclusion (for any cause) in a Lodge will reach the membership in the Chapter and cause the same degree of punishment there; that suspension (for any cause) in the Lodge will reach the membership in the Chapter and also cause the same degree of punishment there."

We agree with the Committee.

The Committee concludes their report as follows:

"The matter of remedying apparent conflict in different parts of the By-Laws on the subject of suspension of members has been referred to this Committee. Upon investigation we find that this matter needs more careful consideration than it is possible to give it at this meeting. We recommend that the matter be left in the hands of the Committee, with instruction to offer necessary amendments at the next Annual Convocation, or that a separate Committee be appointed to consider the matter."

The Grand Treasurer reports cash on hand as $2,369.45.

The Grand Secretary reports:

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|---|---|
| Membership last year | 1,585 |
| Gain the present year | 248 |
| Present membership | 1,833 |

The Grand Lecturer makes a very encouraging and satisfactory report of the year's work, the many courtesies received, the interest manifested by the Companions in the work, and concludes:

"We need Companions to learn more of its beautiful lessons, its sublime symbolism and grand principles, which in their tendency are elevating, educating and ennobling and give to the mind a broad and comprehensive view of life, its duties and responsibilities."

The Committee on Correspondence gives three pages of review to Pennsylvania. They refer to the "able and well-prepared address of the Grand High Priest"; quote a decision, which differs in the scope of its application from their jurisdiction, that a Companion suspended for non-payment of dues places himself in good Masonic standing by the payment of the dues, while in Pennsylvania it requires in addition a majority vote of the members present at any stated meeting of the Chapter. The recording of Marks seems to the reviewers to be too strenuously insisted upon. That depends on the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws. In Pennsylvania every Mark Master solemnly promises to adopt and record a Mark within four months. For a Grand High Priest to peremptorily demand that this be done is not "sentiment" but duty, neglect of which in the past is no reason for its continuance. The growth and stability of Freemasonry depend upon a strict observance of its ritual and a constant practice of its teachings.

M. E. Companion A. B. Andrews, Jr., M. E. Grand High Priest.

M. E. Companion James C. Minds, R. E. Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## NORTH DAKOTA.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of North Dakota convened in Lodge room of the Masonic Temple at Grand Forks, N. D., commencing Thursday, June 27, 1907, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Companion Charles W. Greene, Grand High Priest, presiding. All the Grand Officers present, and nine Past Grand High Priests, twenty-seven Grand Representatives of sister jurisdictions, among them Companion

Alexander B. Taylor representing Pennsylvania, and nineteen Representatives from subordinate Chapters. The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by the M. E. Grand High Priest. After the appointment of several Special Committees, the Grand High Priest read his address. The following is the Introduction:

"Again assembled in Annual Convocation, let us first return our humble thanks to the kind Providence that has so liberally blessed us since last we met; and let us invoke the continuance of that Divine favor which gave life to our institution and created the spirit which brings us together at this time, the spirit which forged the bond of Fraternity. Let us lay aside the cares of our daily life and devote our thoughts and energies to promote and, in so far as we may, help to maintain the welfare of the great Brotherhood of which it is our privilege to be members."

He then refers to the loss of sister jurisdictions by death during the year, including Past Grand High Priest Hamilton, of Pennsylvania.

Five dispensations were granted—three to elect and install officers at a time after the regular time fixed by law, and two were to receive a ballot for applicants at the same meeting.

Two decisions were made:

"A candidate was proposed, balloted and declared elected before his initiation. A Companion objects to having the degrees conferred on him."

His answer is, "that the objection is valid."

"A Brother is elected to receive the degrees, and neglects to take them for a year after being elected: must he be elected again in regular form?

"*Answer:* There is no time limit in which the Chapter degrees must be conferred after election."

"In conclusion, let me thank the Grand Chapter for the high honor of electing me Grand High Priest. Let me also thank each of the Grand Officers for the friendly courtesies shown me during the past several years, and words cannot express the gratitude I feel to our efficient Grand Secretary, Frank J. Thompson, for his many acts of kindness to me during my

term of office. I sincerely hope that my administration has been as satisfactory to the Craft as it has been pleasant."

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a good financial condition—cash balance, $5,627.73.

The Grand Secretary reports the membership on April 30, 1907, as 1,688, against 1,601 the year before, a gain of 87.

The Grand High Priest declared the labor of the Grand Chapter suspended, and a Constitutional Convention opened for the purpose of adopting a new Constitution and By-Laws, whereupon the Grand Secretary read the proposed Constitution and By-Laws, which were adopted by a unanimous vote.

The retiring Grand High Priest, whose portrait is the frontispiece of this report, was then presented with a beautiful Past Master's Jewel.

Companion John Riessbeck, M. E. Grand High Priest.

Companion Frank J. Thompson, R. E. Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## NOVA SCOTIA, 1906.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia (with jurisdiction over the Provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland) was held at Freemasons' Hall in the city of Halifax, N. S., on Tuesday, the 12th day of June, A.D. 1906, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Companion W. M. Black, Grand High Priest, in the chair, and the other elected and appointed officers in their respective stations and places. The Lodge was opened in Ample Form. By resolution passed, all Royal Arch Masons present in good standing were admitted. After the dispatch of some routine business, the Grand Master read his address. It covers fourteen pages

of the report, and to the Chapters in his jurisdiction will be very interesting and encouraging. He visited every Chapter once (there are fifteen) and found them in good condition. The Book of Marks was not generally satisfactory. This condition is found in other jurisdictions. He also found differences in the manner of doing the work in different Chapters. His purpose is to secure uniformity, which is very desirable in any jurisdiction. He speaks very highly of the one Chapter on Newfoundland—Shannon Chapter, No. 9. Number of members, 117.

The following is his summary of his visitations:

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|---|---|
| Number of Chapters in jurisdiction | 15 |
| Number of Chapters officially visited | 15 |
| Distance traveled in visitations | 4,346 miles |
| Condition of Capitular Masonry in jurisdiction | Good |
| Finances | Good |
| Dues | Good |
| Mark Books (except as noted) | Unsatisfactory |
| Work (except as noted) | Uniform |
| Books (except Mark Books) | Excellent |
| Paraphernalia | Good |
| Meeting rooms (with two exceptions) | Good |

A complete revision of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter was adopted, also a form of By-Laws for subordinate Chapters. Section 26 of By-Laws reads as follows:

"The degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason cannot be conferred in Chapter without the appropriate ceremonies in each degree. Nothing ought to be abbreviated in any case, nor must anything be added to for mere effect or otherwise; and no Chapter in this jurisdiction shall be allowed to use more than one substitute, or exalt more than ———— Brethren at one and the same time, without a dispensation from the Most Excellent Grand High Priest. This shall not prohibit the exaltation of more than one team during the same Convocation."

The Grand Secretary reports:

"The returns, so far as they have come to hand, show 98 exaltations, 8 affiliated, and one not returned last year, making 107. Deducting 9 dimitted, 10 suspended, 8 missing, 8 dead, equaling 35, a gain of 72. Total membership, 962."

Grand Treasurer's report:

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|---|---|
| Cash on hand | $424 38 |
| Cash from Secretary | 409 50 |
| | $833 88 |
| Expenses | 213 19 |
| Balance | $620 69 |

No Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Companion W. M. Black, Wolfville, Grand High Priest.

M. E. Companion S. J. Waddell, Truro, Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## NOVA SCOTIA, 1907.

The Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia (with jurisdiction over the Provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland) was held in Freemasons' Hall in the city of Halifax, N. S., Tuesday, the 11th day of June, A.D. 1907, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Companion William Marshall Black, Grand High Priest, presiding, and the other Grand Officers in their respective stations and places. Representatives from nine of the fifteen subordinate Chapters were present. The V. E. Grand Captain of the Host, by order of the M. E. Grand High Priest, organized Grand Chapter, and at eleven o'clock A.M. the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia was opened in Ample Form by the M. E. Grand High Priest, William M. Black.

On motion made and seconded, it was

"*Resolved*, That on the assurance of the M. E. Grand High Priest that the minutes of the Grand Chapter have been properly recorded, that he has signed the same and that they agree with those printed, their reading be dispensed with."

After dispatching some routine work the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion W. M. Black, read his address. We quote from it as follows:

"With all reverence and humility we express our gratitude to the Most High for all His mercies bestowed upon us since last we met in Annual Convocation, and we offer up our sincere thanks that He has permitted us to assemble at this our Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation in order to consider all matters appertaining to our Royal Craft. May our actions be such that they may the better prepare us to be admitted into the Holy of Holies above, into the presence of the Grand Council of Heaven, where the Supreme High Priest forever presides, forever reigns."

The address is full, minute, exhaustive. Every Chapter in the jurisdiction was visited and its condition plainly stated. Peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction and with foreign jurisdictions. Loving tribute is paid to the memory of Past Grand High Priest Stephen R. Sircum, as well as to the other departed of his own jurisdiction. He granted several dispensations, mostly to appear in public wearing Masonic clothing; another to confer the Royal Arch on one candidate, using two substitutes. The year has certainly been a busy one. The Grand Secretary reports that returns have been received from every Chapter in the jurisdiction and that all fees and dues have been paid. The returns show that 92 have been exalted, 7 affiliated, 5 reinstated, 22 suspended, 16 dimitted, 4 missing, and 12 deceased; making a net gain of 50, and a total membership of 1,012. This does not include the membership of Valley Chapter, U.D., which if added would increase the membership by 27.

The Grand Treasurer reports cash balance in bank $753.71.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence gives a fraternal review of a little over a page, calling special attention to the exemplification of the different degrees at the Quarterly Convocations. He also commends the appropriation of $200.00 to the relief of distressed Jews in Russia as in the truest sense a Masonic act.

M. E. Companion William W. Dillon, Sidney, N. S., Grand High Priest.

M. E. Companion S. J. Waddell, Truro, N. S., Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## OHIO.

The Ninety-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Ohio convened in the Masonic Temple in the city of Columbus on October 2, A.D. 1907, at ten o'clock A.M., M. E. Companion William T. McLean, Grand High Priest, presiding, assisted by the Grand Officers. Seven Past Grand High Priests were present, and 152 out of 162 subordinate Chapters represented. The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form, after which the address of welcome was delivered by Excellent Companion Charles L. Harrod, of Ohio Chapter, No. 12, on behalf of the Masons of Columbus.

"In behalf of the Masonic Fraternity of this city in general, and for the Officers and Companions of Ohio Chapter, No. 12, and Temple Chapter, No. 155, in particular, I extend to you, one and all, a most hearty and fraternal welcome upon this the Ninety-first Annual Meeting of the Grand Body. It was on the 24th day of October, 1816, that this Grand Body was first organized and met in our beautiful suburban city, which is situated on the eastern bank of the picturesque Olentangy River. I refer to Worthington. The Masonic family at that time consisted of the parent

and four subordinate bodies, with a membership of forty. Since that time the records show a steady growth, until to-day we have 162 subordinate bodies, with a membership of 25,698 Companions in good standing. In the lifetime of this body she has held annual meetings in twenty-two different cities in the State. When we analyze this record we find the body in a sense a tramp organization, homeless but not friendless. In behalf of the Masonic Fraternity of this city, we are subject to your commands in all things necessary to make your stay with us one of lasting fond remembrance, and furthermore, that our generosity is commensurate with your needs, of which we are not unmindful, I will present you with the keys to the homes of the Masons of this city, and again I bid you welcome."

By direction of the Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion J. Bromwell made a fitting and characteristic response:

"I would need the accumulated eloquence, poetical inspiration, Masonic erudition and dramatic fervor of this whole body to do it justice, but, as I am not able to levy upon you for the purpose, I must, like Anthony, 'Speak right on' in the way of a 'plain, blunt man,' and do the best I can. And, first of all, Most Excellent, let me advise you, as a friend, to get rid of that bunch of keys which has just been handed you. They are a delusion and a snare. Many a man has been landed in the big stone building for which this city is famous for having in his possession a smaller bunch than you have. Beware of this Greek bearing presents. Of course you have good ground, Excellent Companion, to be glad when the Grand Chapter comes to your city. We bring up the average both of good looks and morality of your town for the few days we are here, and you can point with some degree of pride to these handsome Companions and say, 'I am one of them.' We accept your invitation, Most Excellent Companion, and thank you for it."

M. E. Companion James W. Irdell, Jr., reported that the Committee appointed to procure leather aprons for all Past Grand High Priests had fulfilled their mission, upon which the roll of Past Grand High Priests was called, and when all had approached the altar the M. E. Grand High Priest presented each with an appropriate apron on behalf of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest, having appointed the necessary Committees, then delivered his annual address.

He returns profound thanks for the blessings that have crowned the year, and the general good health that has attended the Craft. No present or Past Grand Official has been called by death during his official term, yet among the Companions throughout the jurisdiction 331 have died. He very truthfully says:

"They were just as important in their walk in life and their line of duty, and just as much beloved by their immediate families and circle of friends and Companions, and their absence will be just as keenly felt as though they occupied the highest official place in any human institution, and our sympathy and love is freely proffered to those whose hearts have been so sorely tried."

The official dead of sister jurisdictions is tenderly referred to, and suitable memorial pages are recommended in the printed Proceedings. Several special dispensations were granted to elect and install officers. He speaks in no uncertain sound in reference to granting dispensations:

"From my point of view, the Grand High Priest should not exercise this right except to correct errors, relieve embarrassing emergencies, or to overcome unavoidable omissions, but in no case should he vary from the plainly written laws laid down for his guidance. This power is not placed in his hands that local Chapters may accommodate themselves to conditions which confront them or the convenience of the candidate. In my humble opinion, there would be greater respect for the dignity of the institution and a better conception by the candidates of the lessons taught by our Ritual and Monitor if given to understand that they must accommodate themselves to the requirements of the law as laid down, rather than that the Chapter accept them under any other terms than its own and 'railroad' them through. I declined to issue special dispensations in a number of instances where the only reason given for such requests was that the annual election of officers fell on Christmas night. This affects a number of Chapters in every year, and as men generally make it a point to be at home on that particular day, I see no reason why a good attendance at the annual election would not be assured, or why just as acceptable and able officers could not be chosen on that night as on any other. Hence I refused to entertain such propositions. The instances are few, if there are any, where the addition to our membership through

'stretching' the laws to accommodate special cases would redound to the credit of the institution. Therefore it ought to be understood that we are not so eager to increase our membership that we stand ready to make the road to advancement and exaltation as easy as possible. By respecting and living up to our own laws we will exact due respect for them from those who are not, but would be, of us."

Three dispensations for new Chapters were granted. In reference to the adopting and recording of Marks he says:

"Finding that the requirements and specific instructions, which to any good Mason are most impressive and *apropos*, relative to the adoption and registration of a Mark are more honored in the breach than in the observance in a great many Chapters in this State, I would advise the adoption of a rule making it imperative that all the requirements of the Mark Master's degree be complied with before the candidate is exalted."

The Grand Treasurer reports:

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|---|---|
| Receipts | $17,098 50 |
| Expenditures | 14,282 87 |
| Balance | $2,815 63 |

The Grand Secretary reports:

| | |
|---|---|
| Active Chapters | 162 |
| U. D. | 3 |
| Membership, July 31, 1907 | 25,698 |

Pennsylvania receives kind and courteous treatment from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Companion Lewis M. Lea, Sandusky, Grand High Priest.

Companion Edward Hagenbuch, Urbana, Grand Secretary.

J. W. H.

## OREGON.

The Forty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Oregon was opened in Masonic Temple, city of Portland, on Monday,

June 10, A.D. 1907. The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at 10.30 o'clock by M. E. Companion Lot L. Pearce, Grand High Priest, assisted by the other Grand Officers. Sixteen Past Grand High Priests, six Past Grand Lecturers and twenty-four Representatives of Grand Chapters were present. Twenty-five of the thirty-one subordinate Chapters were represented. After the appointment of some Special Committees, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest addressed the Chapter.

He congratulates the Chapter on the prosperity that has been the order during the year, both material and numerical. He names the Companions of the different Chapters in the jurisdiction who have died during the year, and in this connection refers to the officers of foreign jurisdictions who have passed the "White Vail" during the same time, among them Past Grand High Priest William Charles Hamilton, of our own jurisdiction, representing them as "distinguished citizens of their respective communities, as well as illustrious Masons."

He then gives a list of the appointments of Grand Representatives to the other Grand Jurisdictions with which they are in fraternal correspondence. These are appointed every three years. Several dispensations were granted, generally giving permission to ballot for and confer degrees, waiving the statutory limitations of time, on account of the great distance of the applicants from the Chapter, some of them being sixty miles and one 100 miles distant. Righteous dispensations! But one decision was given. A Companion had been expelled from his Lodge, and in consequence was expelled from his Chapter. The Companion took an appeal from the action of his Lodge. The Grand Lodge reversed the action of his Lodge, arrested the charter of the Lodge, and all members, including the one expelled, were given certificates of membership. The question was:

"Does this restore the Companion to good standing in the Chapter, or does it require an action of the Chapter to restore him?

"*Answer.*—The action of the Lodge having been declared to be erroneous and of no effect by the Grand Lodge, which had sovereign jurisdiction in the matter, if no charges are presented against him in the Chapter he is in good standing therein, the action of the Grand Lodge having placed him in the same position as if no charge had been presented against him."

He regrets his inability to visit the Chapters, as was his purpose when installed, only one official visitation being made.

He concludes by expressing his sincere appreciation of the confidence reposed in him by the Companions of Grand Chapter, and expresses publicly his thanks to Grand Secretary for his counsel and the many favors shown.

The Grand Treasurer reports:

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance on hand | $4,652 80 |
| Received during year | 1,666 00 |
| Total | $6,318 80 |
| Expenditures | 5,975 70 |
| Balance on hand | $343 10 |

The Grand Secretary reports:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Chapters | 38 |
| Number of members | 2,441 |
| Net gain during year | 138 |

They expect to hold their next Annual Convocation in their new Temple in Portland.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence gives a fair and courteous report of Pennsylvania.

M. E. Grand High Priest, F. W. Davis, Union.

M. E. Grand Secretary, James P. Robinson, Eugene.

J. W. H.

## QUEBEC.

The M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec assembled in Thirtieth Annual Grand Convocation in the Masonic Temple in the city of Montreal, at 10.50 o'clock A.M., on Tuesday, the 26th day of March, A.D. 1907, M. E. Companion John McLean, Grand First Principal Z., presiding, assisted by the other Grand Officers. Twenty Past Grand Officers, seventeen Representatives of other jurisdictions, among them Pennsylvania, and fifty-three Representatives from the different Chapters were present. At the evening session the Grand First Principal Z. delivered his address. He heartily welcomes them to the Convocation and expresses great pleasure in meeting them, and then says:

"An interesting coincidence in connection with this Convocation is that the earliest preserved records of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province are said to be of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 2, Moderns of the city of Quebec, of the date of the 26th of March, 1783, just 124 years ago to-day, although the conferring of our degrees in Quebec are said to have been at a much earlier date."

He speaks of M. E. Companion Edson Fitch, Past Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter and Past Grand of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, who died during the year, in the following language:

"Edson Fitch was a man among men. His heart was as large as his stature and as open as his pocket to the cry of distress. He was a broad man, and as big mentally as he was physically. His word was his bond. Deceit and dishonor were loathsome to him. He was true to himself, true to his friends and true to Masonry. May he rest in peace."

The Province is divided into four districts, over each of which is appointed a Grand Superintendent, whose duty is to visit and instruct the Chapters in the work. There are thirteen Chapters in all. The Superintendents make written

reports of the work in their districts to the Grand First Principal Z. at the Annual Convocation. The reports are full and show the Chapters in good condition.

The Committee on the Reports of Grand Superintendents of Districts reports as follows:

"We are glad to note that our Order is steadily increasing, and that at the same time the Chapters are becoming more and more careful in the selection of those admitted to partake of our privileges. It is pleasing to note from the reports submitted that the Grand Superintendents visited all the Chapters in their several jurisdictions. The holding of joint meetings by two or more Chapters is an evidence of the harmony existing among the various subordinate Chapters and is greatly to be commended.

"We have received no report from Bedford District, which is probably owing to the fact that the Grand Superintendent has removed from the district. We think that a Grand Superintendent, when he finds he is unable from any cause to perform the duties of his office, should at least notify the Grand Z. of the fact, in order that another may be appointed to fill the position. We would respectfully add the suggestion that when a Grand Superintendent fails in his duty he should not be permitted to retain his rank as a Past Grand Superintendent."

Grand Secretary's report:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Chapters | 13 |
| Number of members, 1905 | 1,018 |
| Number of members, 1906 | 1,093 |
| Increase | 75 |

The Treasurer's account shows balance on hand of $2,199.41.

In Committee on Correspondence fraternal mention is made of Pennsylvania.

M. E. Companion John McLean, Montreal, Grand Z.

M. E. Companion William H. Whyte, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

J. W. H.

## SCOTLAND.

The first Report is of a Quarterly Convocation held in the Royal Arch Masons' Hall, Edinburgh, Friday, March 1, 1907. All the Grand Officers were present. The Supreme Grand Chapter was opened in due and solemn form at 5.30 P.M. Then follows a long list of apologies for inability to be present. There is nothing in the Proceedings that would be of interest to American Chapters. The receipt of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of England, the Grand Mark Lodge of England, the Grand Chapters of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Washington, U. S. A., also Proceedings of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, and Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of New Jersey was acknowledged. The election of officers then followed.

The financial statement shows balance on hand of £8,138 2*s.* 5½*d.* on General Account; on Charity Fund, £3,387 4*s.* 6*d.* Number of Chapters, 330. They are located in all parts of the Old World.

The second Report is the proceedings of the Supreme Grand Chapter and Committee for 1907–8 at the Annual Convocation, held in the Royal Arch Masons' Hall, Edinburgh, Thursday, March 21, 1907. All the Grand Officers present. M. E. Companion Alfred A. Arbuthnot Murray, D. G. Z., as Grand Z. Supreme Grand Chapter was opened in due and solemn form at 5.30 P.M.

The following letter of regret was read from Companion R. King Stewart, M. E. Grand Z.-elect:

"DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMPANION:—I telegraphed to you this morning that I would be unable to be present to be installed and to preside at the Annual Festival of the Vernal Equinox, on 21st inst. I had hoped to come north for it, but caught cold two days ago, and as I came here to recruit after influenza I do not feel fit to travel so far at present. I post-

poned writing to you sooner in hopes I might be able to come. Kindly express to the Office Bearers and Companions of Supreme Grand Chapter my sincere thanks for electing me to the office of First Grand Principal, and my regret at not being present to be installed at the Annual Convocation and Festival.

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,
"R. K. STEWART."

The installation followed. The services were frequently punctuated by applause. The Supreme Grand Chapter closed in due and solemn form, and the Companions adjourned to the Banqueting Hall to celebrate the Festival of the Vernal Equinox. Gastronomical and rhetorical exercises concluded the session.

M. E. Companion R. K. Stewart, Grand Z.

M. E. Companion R. S. Brown, Grand Scribe E.

J. W. H.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of South Carolina assembled in Grand Convocation at the Masonic Temple in Charleston, South Carolina, on Tuesday, the 13th day of February, 1906, at twelve M. Companion Frank E. Harrison, M. E. Grand High Priest. Companion Jacob T. Barron, R. E. Grand Secretary.

The Proceedings are in a handsome volume (including the Report of the Committee on Correspondence) of 120 pages, embellished with the portraits of several Past Grand High Priests. The annual address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Frank E. Harrison, is admirable for its terseness, high moral tone and clear presentation of duties performed. His decisions met with the approval of the Grand Chapter and there are only two, showing a commendable knowledge of the law on the part of our South Carolina Royal Arch

Masons. The first has reference to physical disability. It is strange how slow Masons are to comprehend how vital this principle of physical wholeness is to our institution.

The first query:

"Is a Master Mason who has lost his hand—say the amputation is just above the wrist—eligible for membership in the Chapter, *i.e.*, can the Chapter degrees be lawfully conferred upon him? *Answer:* No."

"No. 2. A Master Mason is unaffiliated, but expects to make application for affiliation right away. Can we accept his application before we know that he has been affiliated with some Blue Lodge? *Answer:* No; you will have to wait until he becomes an affiliated Blue Lodge Mason."

In the Proceedings are published the names of all the Royal Arch Masons belonging to the Grand Chapter of South Carolina. This to my mind is eminently proper and valuable as a matter of information.

I have read the whole Proceedings as published to the end, and am impressed by the ability displayed in presenting the doings of the Craft. The review of Pennsylvania is commendatory, especially of our attitude concerning the recording of Marks. My dear Companion Barron, I have not the honor of your acquaintance, but gather from the report under review that you are an accomplished and clear-thinking Royal Arch Mason.

G. H.

## SOUTH DAKOTA.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of South Dakota met in Eighteenth Annual Convocation at Masonic Temple in the city of Lead, commencing Thursday, June 13, 1907, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437, at nine o'clock A.M.

George A. Pettigrew, M. E. Grand High Priest.

John E. Hipple, R. E. Grand King.

Charles A. Christopherson as R. E. Grand Scribe.

Bernard C. Jacobs, R. E. Grand Treasurer.

Louis G. Leroy, R. E. Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest in his address recognized in his opening remarks the truth that our Masonic mysteries, if they do not lead us to grow in intellectual, moral and spiritual excellence, are worse than useless.

"The strength of our institution does not consist of numbers, but in moral worth and Masonic activity."

His statement that harmony exists among the Craft in the jurisdiction of South Dakota means, at least, that peace and quietness prevail. The Grand High Priest notices the prominent dead of sister jurisdictions in brief, well-expressed words, admirable in pointing out the chief characteristics of each.

With reference to rituals he states the custom of the use of Cryptograms, contrary to our usage:

"Our ritual is what is termed the Wisconsin work, and under this work the reading of the 'Cryptogram' is different from that of the General Grand Chapter. As all of the Grand Chapters with one exception have the latter, I would add my recommendation to that of the E. Grand Lecturer that we adopt the General Grand Chapter reading."

His address was referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers—a good custom and eminently proper.

The following is a recapitulation of the work done in subordinate Chapters during the year:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Chapters in this jurisdiction | 30 |
| Number of members in good standing | 2,143 |
| Number exalted during the year | 162 |
| Number admitted during the year | 46 |
| Number reinstated | 14 |
| Number suspended | 28 |
| Number dimitted | 52 |
| Number died | 26 |
| Net gain during the year | 116 |

"The three largest Chapters in the jurisdiction are Sioux Falls, No. 2, with 217 members; Aberdeen, No. 14, with 141 members, and Mitchell, No. 16, with 125 members."

| | |
|---|---|
| Total receipts | $3,241 91 |
| Total disbursements | 1,881 90 |
| Balance on hand | $1,360 01 |

"The Most Excellent Grand High Priest appointed Companions William E. Milligan (14) and Harvey J. Rice, Past Grand High Priest, as tellers, and the following named officers were declared elected for the ensuing Masonic year:

A. C. Biernatzki (34), M. E. Grand High Priest.
John E. Hipple (22), V. E. Deputy Grand High Priest.
David A. Douglas (36), R. E. Grand King.
Frank A. Brown (14), R. E. Grand Scribe.
Bernard C. Jacobs (4), R. E. Grand Treasurer.
George A. Pettigrew (2), R. E. Grand Secretary.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Companion Louis G. Leroy, who with careful hand and wise discrimination reviews the Proceedings of Grand Chapters. Particularly of interest to us is his review of Pennsylvania for the years 1905 to 1907. His criticisms are well expressed and I give them, that the Craft in Pennsylvania may see how an accomplished Companion may differ with us:

"The Most Excellent is a strict physical perfectionist and quoted many authorities to support his stand, and winds up by demanding the same physical perfection necessary in a candidate for the Lodge degrees, in which we think he is at fault.

"The newly elected Grand High Priest addressed Grand Chapter at length, and from its reading we predict he will give Grand Chapter an effective administration.

"He suggests that Capitular Masonry has not been accorded its proper support in the jurisdiction, shown by the disparity of its numbers compared with that of Symbolic Masonry, and offers as a reason that Symbolic Lodges fail to impress the lessons properly, so as to arouse an interest in the Chapter degrees. It seems to us far-fetched, it not being the province of Symbolic Lodge or Symbolic Masons to urge their membership or

Brethren to take the further degrees; but it is the duty of Chapters and Chapter Masons to disseminate the Royal light to their uninformed Brethren, by soliciting those they know are worthy to ask for and receive more light in Masonry.

"It is more possible, however, that the great difference in membership of the two Crafts are the limitations legislated by Grand Chapter in the physical perfection idea, the time limitation in which degrees can be conferred and other stringent laws, which all apply and are effective in keeping membership down.

"He proposes to go after the Mark delinquents, and if not successful during the year will suggest a rather drastic remedy, no less than that of suspension, to reach the Companion who will not listen to persuasion and comply with the requirements of Grand Chapter."

G. H.

## TENNESSEE.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Tennessee was held in the Masonic Temple in the city of Nashville, commencing on Monday, January 28, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437. Present: Most Excellent George L. Cowan, Grand High Priest; Right Excellent William A. Clendening, Grand Secretary.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is a short and business-like document. In announcing the deaths of P. M. E. Grand High Priests, among whom is that of M. E. Companion William Charles Hamilton, Past Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, he quotes the following:

"O Grave! A sacred trust
To thee is given! No common ashes sleep
Within thy guardian arms; securely keep
This consecrated dust
Till, quickened with new life, it shall arise,
A glorious body, fitted for the skies!"

In common with most of the M. E. Grand High Priests of all our jurisdictions, he finds it difficult to keep pure the

ritual and to prevent improper rendering. His recommendation is a good one:

"I would recommend to the Grand Chapter that some mode of inspection should be inaugurated as to the manner in which our ritual is imparted. I have been credibly informed that many of the Chapters make a frolic of the degrees—make them so rough and humiliating that it is impossible for the candidate to stand it, and all the beauty and solemnity of these beautiful degrees are lost."

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted a report so admirable in tone and quality that it is given here in full:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, beg leave to submit the following report:

"We rejoice with him that the protecting hand of a kind Heavenly Father has shielded all the Grand and Past Grand Officers of our Grand Chapter during the past year, and that it has seemed wise to Him to spare all their lives to meet again in our Annual Convocation, and we also share with him the great pleasure he enjoys in the continued peace and harmony which prevails in our entire jurisdiction in Capitular Masonry.

"We sympathize with our Companions in other Grand Jurisdictions in the loss they have sustained by the death of so many loved Companions who have ranked high, not only in official life, but also in the esteem and affection in which they were held in their own Masonic families.

"We recommend that, in token of our esteem for them, memorial pages in our Proceedings, suitably inscribed, be set apart to their memory.

"We approve the commissions issued to Companions of other Grand Jurisdictions to represent the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and also the recommendations made of Companions who bear the commissions of sister jurisdictions as Representatives near the Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

"We especially commend and most cheerfully approve his action in reference to our distressed Companions of Ken-Ten Chapter, No. 148, at Jellico, Kentucky, in granting their request to meet in Masonic Hall in Jellico, Tennessee, until their own hall, which had been destroyed by an unfortunate explosion, could be rebuilt.

"We also approve his acts in the several dispensations issued and refused, some of which, we believe, were asked for through a misunderstanding of Masonic jurisprudence; we refer to dispensations to remove to halls less than a block distant from the old ones, in the same town.

"We commend his zeal in the matter of official visitations, and believe that the interest in our Order is largely increased by official visitations.

We greatly regret that sickness prevented him from enjoying the hospitality and courtesy of many more Chapters.

"We share with him in the confidence expressed in the willingness of the Grand Chapter to do her duty in helping to support the pride and joy of our hearts, the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home, and believe that confidence is not misplaced.

"We regret to know that any Royal Arch Mason would so far forget the sublime principles taught in the ritual of our impressive degrees as to permit himself, for one moment, to be guilty of any act calculated to detract from the solemnity of the work, thereby destroying the effect of the lessons to be taught.

"We approve his recommendation that some system of inspection and instruction be inaugurated whereby the Grand Chapter may keep in touch with her subordinate Chapters and prevent the use of vaudeville performances in degree work. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

"We commend the faithfulness and zeal manifested by our Grand High Priest in Masonic work and in the discharge of his official duties during the past year.

"As has been our custom for many years, it is purposed to exemplify the work before the Grand Chapter.

"The incoming Grand High Priest will be expected to make arrangements for the exemplification of the work before the Grand Chapter next year."

Companion Samuel Slager was elected Grand High Priest.

Companion William A. Clendening was elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Chapter of Tennessee is composed of eighty Chapters, three being U. D. It has a total of 3,689 Royal Arch Masons.

The Treasurer had a balance on hand January 29, 1907, of $4,108.18.

The Committee on Correspondence notice quite fully Pennsylvania. His comment on our mode of procedure in the installing of the Grand High Priest is not in good taste:

" 'All the Companions present who had not received the Order of High Priesthood having retired, Companion J. Henry Williams was installed

Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging, was duly proclaimed as such, and received the salutations of the Craft.'

"Too much red tape for an officer who had been re-elected."

In civic affairs, a President of the United States, a Governor of a State, a Mayor of a city, if he be re-elected to office undergoes the same ceremonies as when first inducted into office. And in Masonry is it not fitting that the reinstalling into office ought to be as dignified, as fitting as the first? This matter of "red tape" so called (in Masonry at least) ought to be carefully guarded, for deviation means and has effected great detriment to landmarks, constitutional laws, ancient customs, etc.

G. H.

## TEXAS.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas convened in the Fifty-seventh Grand Annual Convocation in the Masonic Temple at Waco, Texas, on Tuesday, December 4, A.D. 1906, A.I. 2436, at two o'clock P.M. Companion Sam P. Cochran, M. E. Grand High Priest; Companion John A. Bryan, E. Grand Secretary.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is mainly taken up with matters pertaining to the Craft, and gives evidence of much labor during the year. He made no less than twenty-six decisions, of which I quote as follows:

"3. A member of a Blue Lodge was expelled for unmasonic conduct, and this fact reported to, and noted upon the records of, the Chapter to which he belonged. The case was appealed to the Grand Lodge, and reversed and remanded by that body. The High Priest of the Chapter asked: 'How shall we regard him in the Royal Arch Chapter until he is again tried?'

"*Held:* His status is that of a member in good standing, with charges pending against him.

"12. In answer to questions from Quanah Chapter, No. 195, I decided:

"1st. A Master Mason who is not a Royal Arch Mason has no right to enter a protest in relation to any matters pertaining to the Royal Arch and appendant degrees.

"2d. Any Royal Arch Mason in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction has a right to protest against the conferring of the Royal Arch and appendant degrees upon a candidate elected to receive them.

"3d. It is not necessary for a Companion entering a protest against the conferring of degrees upon a candidate to give a reason therefor.

"4th. A High Priest has no right to inform a protested candidate as to who filed a protest against him; it is a secret appertaining to the Chair, and does not rightfully belong to the protested candidate, or any one else, and should be carefully guarded.

"13. Being requested by Ennis Chapter, No. 135, to issue a dispensation authorizing the Chapter to make use of a substitute in conferring the Royal Arch degree, I replied: Substitutes can be used in conferring the Royal Arch degree only when so decided by unanimous vote of the Chapter at a stated Convocation. The Grand High Priest cannot grant a dispensation to use substitutes.

"14. The expulsion of a High Priest during his term of office by a Blue Lodge expels him from the Chapter also, upon proper entry of the Blue Lodge action on the Chapter records; but his expulsion from the Chapter does not affect the standing of those who have received degrees at his hands or under his administration. The High Priest is but the servant of the Chapter, and any personal imperfection or inadequacy in him cannot taint the Chapter or those who received degrees by legal direction of that Chapter.

"18. The Secretary of Rockdale Chapter, No. 143, after being re-elected in June, moved to another town. The High Priest asked: 'Can we elect another Secretary on the night of installation?'

"Replied: An election of officers can only be held at the time stated in the Constitution, namely, at the last stated Convocation preceding the 24th day of June of each year, and the Grand High Priest has no power to grant a dispensation for election at any other time.

"19. A Companion asks: 'Can a Chapter open on a regular or stated Convocation, elect candidates to receive the Royal Arch and appendant degrees, and leave the Chapter open to confer the degrees the following week?'

"*Answer:* No; a stated Convocation must be regularly closed on the same day on which it is opened."

The M. E. Grand High Priest had many recommendations to make. I give his views on affiliation by dimitted Master Masons:

"It has been heretofore held (1887), and is so enunciated in Article 108, Resolutions and Edicts, that a Companion may affiliate with a Chapter, though dimitted from a Lodge. This question arose during the past year, and I decided in accordance with the law as above stated.

"It seems to me, however, that it would be wise to change this law, and provide that an applicant for affiliation in a Chapter must be a member in good standing in a Lodge. Our law (Article 77) requires that a candidate for Chapter degrees 'must be a Master Mason in good standing, and a member of a Lodge, not necessarily in this State'; and the Lodge being the foundation of all Masonry, it seems to me that a Mason should be required to keep his foundation sound, true and stable, as a condition precedent to membership in other Masonic bodies. The widest latitude is permitted as to where Lodge membership may be held in the matter of a petitioner for degrees, and the same freedom should be accorded with respect to applicants for affiliation; but in my judgment such applicant should be required to be a member of a Lodge somewhere, and to give his support, moral, financial and otherwise, to that Masonic foundation on which the superstructure of higher degrees is erected. The Commandery of Knights Templar requires that not only each petitioner for Orders must be a member in good standing in a Lodge and Chapter, but that each member must maintain such standing in those bodies in order to retain his membership in the Commandery; and I feel that this Grand Chapter would promote its own interest and that of subordinate Chapters by the enactment of a similar law.

"I therefore recommend that a resolution be adopted providing that an applicant for affiliation must be a member in good standing in a Lodge, not necessarily in this State."

In recommending that the Grand Chapter constitute a Special Committee on Revision of the Ritual, he says truthfully and well what is apparent to any who have thought over the matter:

"I believe that all Masonic workers will admit that any work transmitted by oral instruction only is bound in the course of time to become more or less altered. All men do not remember equally well, all are not equally educated and trained in grammatical expression, all have not the same comprehension of language and the facility of acquiring and imparting it, all do not equally or fully understand the value and importance of words and their use, and the resultant difficulties when substitutions and transpositions are made. By reason of these facts and conditions changes have crept into the work from time to time; crudities of language

or ungrammatical expressions have found place in the work, and variations in the use of the same words or terms in different places, where the same meaning is intended to be conveyed, have injected themselves into the esoteric work."

His views on Masonic charity are well worth quoting:

"No more convincing and indisputable proof that Masonry not only teaches but practices charity, benevolence, and love of our fellow-beings can be found than the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home, near Fort Worth, where over 170 wards of the Fraternity are properly cared for. That institution is a crown of glory to the Masonic Fraternity of Texas. But widows and orphans are not the only ones who need the support of the strong arm and the assistance of the liberal hand of our Order. Master Masons and Royal Arch Companions grow old; many grow weary and fall in the unceasing battle of life, and as the end draws near need assistance. Many who have been prosperous and successful in earlier years, through misfortune, accident, or other cause, suffer reverses and are no longer able to make the necessary provision for themselves. Sickness overtakes many and leaves them incapacitated, if not permanent invalids. Some grow old and lose all home ties and need a resting place. All of these present phases of human life which appeal strongly to our sympathies and best instincts.

"Next to the work of caring for the widows and orphans of our members, no nobler and God-inspired work could be undertaken than that of providing for those members of our Craft who from any cause need our assistance. The idea of a Home for Aged or Infirm Masons is not new; many of our sister Grand Jurisdictions have already successfully established this work, and it has been the subject of much discussion among the members of the Fraternity in this State.

"Heretofore the needs and demands of the Widows and Orphans' Home have seemed to preclude the possibility of undertaking any further work in that line. I believe, however, that the time has now come when this need, not to say demand, should receive our serious and practical attention. The Grand Lodge has special charge of the Widows and Orphans' Home, and while this Grand Chapter has contributed liberally thereto, it does not share the burdens and responsibilities incumbent upon the Grand Lodge in connection with its maintenance.

"Having made a liberal donation to the Grand Lodge in connection with the privilege of a permanent meeting place in this Temple, this Grand Chapter now has no immediate object or obligation before it to which to devote its surplus revenue. Its finances are in a prosperous condition, its income exceeds its expenditures for necessary expenses,

and each year should see a surplus of money left in the hands of our Grand Treasurer. I know of no grander and nobler purpose to which such surplus could be appropriated than the creation of a special fund for a Masonic Home for Aged Masons, and I recommend that this Grand Chapter take the first step in this direction at its present Grand Convocation."

The Grand Secretary reports a membership of 11,785 and a roll of 203 Chapters. The Grand Treasurer reports a cash balance of $9,756.63.

Our Companions of Texas also contributed $4,049.55 to the San Francisco sufferers. Truly the Grand Chapter of Texas is to be congratulated on its condition.

The Committee on Correspondence reviews Pennsylvania at length, very courteously and succinctly.

In conclusion, we wish to state that we are so much pleased with the candor and ability of the reviewer in his summary of this and other jurisdictions (we read with interest the whole report) that we feel well repaid for time spent. G. H.

## VERMONT.

The Ninetieth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Vermont convened in Masonic Temple in the city of Burlington, at ten o'clock A.M., on Friday, the 14th day of June, A.D. 1907, A.I. 2437.

Grand High Priest David A. Elliott's address is a business document and shows careful survey and grasp of the condition of affairs in the jurisdiction of Vermont. His reference to "our fraternal dead" is well worth repeating:

"We meet with our official ranks unbroken, but, alas! the grim reaper Death has not been idle since last we met.

"While we rejoice as we meet each other with words of fraternal greeting, and the hearty hand clasp of Companions we have learned to love brings to us a comforting assurance of the eternal nature of the bond that binds us together, and a realizing sense of the inspiration that we derive from our

communion with each other, yet over our hearts there steals a feeling of sadness and our joy is tempered with sorrow, as we realize that there are vacancies in our ranks, and that we shall listen in vain for the sound of the voices that are stilled.

"For years we work shoulder to shoulder, faithfully and energetically laboring to advance the interests of our Order, and as one after another of our faithful co-laborers finish the work that has been assigned to them and, laying aside their working tools, carry their work up for inspection, may we who remain be encouraged and inspired to more heroic endeavors by the remembrance of their faithful, unremitting and effective work."

Chapters, 29. Members, June, 1907, 3,811. Balance on hand on June 14, 1907, $12,717.67.

The following were elected for the year 1907–8: M. E. Collins Blakely, Grand High Priest; R. E. Olin W. Daley, Deputy Grand High Priest; R. E. Edward H. Martin, Grand King; R. E. Carroll W. Black, Grand Scribe; R. E. Charles W. Whitcomb, Grand Treasurer; R. E. Henry H. Ross, Grand Secretary.

The following excerpt from the Proceedings shows how Ritual work is managed in Vermont:

"The following resolution was introduced by Past Grand High Priest Perkins, and was referred to the Committee on Finance:

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of three, of which the M. E. Grand High Priest shall be Chairman, be appointed with power to prepare 100 copies of the "floor-work" to be used in this jurisdiction, the same to be the floor-work formulated by our late Companion Charles R. Montague, with such changes as may be deemed desirable by the Committee.

"That copies of this proposed floor-work be distributed by the Grand Secretary, one to the High Priest of each of the subordinate Chapters, which shall be receipted for by each of said High Priests to the Grand Secretary, and shall be transmitted by each to his successor, who shall in turn forward a receipt for the same immediately after his installation into office to the Grand Secretary. Provided, further, that a copy may be loaned to each of the following, who shall receipt directly to the Grand Secretary for the same and return his copy at the close of his term of office to the Grand Secretary, viz.: The Grand High Priest, Grand Lecturer, and each of the District Deputy Grand High Priests, under the same conditions as heretofore named. All copies of the floor-work shall invariably remain the property of the Grand Chapter.

"That the authorized copy of the Ritual of this jurisdiction be kept in the office of the Grand Secretary."

"Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred the resolution relative to floor-work and the printed Ritual, would recommend as follows: That the authorized written copy of the Ritual of this jurisdiction be kept in the office of the Grand Secretary.

"That the M. E. Grand High Priest appoint a Committee of three, himself to be Chairman, and this Committee be authorized to prepare 100 copies of the floor-work and to distribute same as recommended in the resolution, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay for same upon approval of said Committee."

Appended to the Proceedings are the General Regulations of the Vermont Jurisdiction, which are to be commended for brevity, clearness and good sense. I wish they could be given here in full.

The Committee on Correspondence reviews quite at length Pennsylvania. He does not agree with many of our views, for instance, "Physical Perfection" and "Passing the Chair" preparatory to application for admission to the Chapter. These bones of contention have been gnawed year after year. It is high time debate should close. He intimates that Pennsylvania should change; but it must be remembered that these have been our views and customs for over one hundred years. We judge them good, and see no reason to change them for more modern customs in use among other Grand Chapters. As I read Companion Perkins' very able report and his comments, one thing stands out, and that is his clear statement of his own views.

The volume of the Proceedings is embellished with a fine portrait of Past Grand High Priest Elliott, and presents fully the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Vermont, and is a mine of information to the Royal Craft.

G. H.

## VICTORIA.

Convocation held at Freemasons' Hall, Collins Street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, January 16, 1907.

M. E. Comp. Philip Cohen, G. Z.; M. E. John Braim, P. G. H., G. Scribe E.

R. E. Comp. H. W. Sinclair, P. G. J., nominated M. E. Comp. Philip Cohen, G. Z., as First Grand Principal for the ensuing year. The nomination was seconded by M. E. Comp. J. D. Drew, P. G. Z.

The following report of the Committee of General Purposes was submitted to Grand Chapter:

"1. The Committee met on the 1st October and 17th December.

"2. The following dispensations have been granted by the M. E. the First Grand Principal:

"October 11, 1906, Argyle Chapter, No. 14.

"November 3, 1906, St. Andrews in the South Chapter, No. 19.

"November 7, 1906, Yarrowee Chapter, No. 7.

"November 28, 1906, St. Andrews in the South Chapter, No. 19.

"December 15, 1906, St. Andrews in the South Chapter, No. 19.

"3. The Committee submits the names of the undermentioned Companions for appointment as Grand Representatives:

"Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, V. E. Companion Dr. A. Rollason, President of Committee of General Purposes.

"Grand Chapter of Delaware, R. E. Companion Charles Bott, P. G. H.

"Grand Chapter of South Dakota, M. E. Companion Frank Davies, P. G. Z.

"Grand Chapter of Alabama, R. E. Companion H. I. Scott, G. J.

"4. The Committee recommends that the petition to open a new Chapter at Kyneton, to be called the Kyneton Chapter, be granted.

"5. The Committee recommends to Grand Chapter that the Victorian Chapter be allowed to alter its name to 'The Victorian-Washington' Chapter.

"6. The following accounts have been passed for payment, as recommended by the Finance Committee:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grand Janitor's Fee | £1 | 1 | 0 |
| "Masonry," for Advertising to December 31, 1906 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Petty Cash | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Carriage of Robes | | 15 | 0 |
| Blowing Organ | | 5 | 0 |
| Grand Scribe E., to December 31, 1906 | 6 | 5 | 0 |
| S. Fox & Co., for Printing to December 31, 1906 | 2 | 14 | 9 |
| | £14 | 10 | 9 |

## VIRGINIA.

The Ninety-ninth Grand Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Masons of Virginia convened in Masonic Temple in the city of Richmond, Va., Tuesday evening, October 23, A.D. 1906, A.I. 2436, A.L. 5906, at eight o'clock, when, after prayer by the acting Grand Chaplain, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter was opened in Ample Form by M. E. Grand High Priest Samuel Worthington Thompson. M. E. Samuel W. Thompson, No. 13, Grand High Priest; R. E. James Braxton Blanks, No. 7, Grand Secretary.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is one of great merit, clear and interesting. I quote his opening remarks:

"Companions:—It is with feelings of sincere pleasure and gratitude to our Great High Priest, for His many mercies vouchsafed to us, that I bid you welcome to this our Ninety-ninth Grand Annual Convocation, and to each and all extend hearty greetings.

"Another year has passed, and once more we are permitted to assemble to deliberate on matters of interest to the Craft and devise ways and means for the advancement of our Grand Order.

"I come to-night to render an account of the stewardship with which you invested me one year ago.

"The year has been a busy one, and while nothing of unusual importance has transpired, still there has been a steady growth, and the cause of Capitular Masonry is on the increase."

Among his decisions the following are of interest:

"The following, however, I deem of sufficient importance to report:

"In 1864 Companion Hy. S. Carter was exalted in Petersburg Chapter, No. 7, and his name appears in the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1865 as a member of said Chapter. In 1866 it does not appear, and there is no record to show why it was dropped. It appears that it was the custom after the war to drop from the rolls all those whose residence was unknown. It seems that Companion Carter moved to Kansas and became prominent in that jurisdiction, but when his Commandery found he was a non-affiliating Royal Arch Mason they dropped him from their rolls. The question was what steps should he take to be restored to membership and secure a dimit. I held that he is a non-affiliate and that he must make application in the usual way, which would have to lie over for one month, and then if he was restored to membership they could grant the dimit. There should be some evidence that he was a member in good standing in some Blue Lodge.

"My reason for reaching this conclusion was that it was clearly his duty to keep the Secretary of No. 7 informed of his address, and as he had failed to do so and had paid no dues, it was clearly a case of negligence on his part.

"A Companion was tried and suspended in his Lodge. He has since been restored to the rights and benefits of Masonry. After such restoration he made application to his Chapter for membership and was rejected. He desired to know how he stood with the Chapter.

"I held that if the Companion had been restored to the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry, but not to membership, he was a non-affiliate and could make application to any Chapter for membership. If he had not been restored to the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry, he must make application to the Chapter which suspended him for such restoration.

"A Brother who held his membership in a Lodge located at Yokohama, Japan, and had a certificate of membership from the Grand Lodge of England, under whose jurisdiction the Lodge of Yokohama was, made application for the Chapter degrees. The question was could they receive it? I held that if he had resided for one year under the jurisdiction of the Chapter applied to, and they were satisfied he was a Master Mason in good standing, they could receive his petition."

Among his recommendations is one which is to be strongly commended:

"Fourth—In the Proceedings of 1888 I find there was a law passed re-

quiring the Grand Working Committee to exemplify the work before the Grand Chapter. So far as I know that law has been a dead one. I also find that M. E. Conrad recommended it in his address, but that no action was taken.

"In my visits I found that such an exemplification would give satisfaction to the Companions throughout the jurisdiction, and I cannot see why we cannot have it. I know we are pushed for time, but we ought to be willing to make some sacrifices. I offer as a suggestion that the Grand Chapter meet on the first day say at four P.M., and that the Grand Chapter be opened and turned over to the Grand Working Committee until say seven, then call off until eight, when we can take up the regular business. By this arrangement the Grand Working Committee would have three hours for its work. I hope that this much-mooted question will be settled at this Grand Convocation."

In concluding he eloquently and tenderly expresses himself:

"During the dark hours of last summer when my loved ones were hovering between life and death, and I knew not what an hour might bring forth—when I was almost spent with anxiety and watching—messages of hope and cheer came to me from my Companions like rays of hope to lighten my burdens. For these kindly words I return my sincere thanks. Messages such as these serve the closer to bind the ties, and are examples of the teachings of our loved Order.

"In a few short hours I shall lay down the responsibilities and duties with which you invested me a year ago. Sustained by that enthusiasm which ever marks the true Companion, I have often in pain and weariness, and often under the shadow of domestic sorrow, striven to perform the duties. I shrink from no criticism, for Justice is the watchword of the Order. To have been elected to preside over this Grand Chapter was indeed an honor of which any one may be proud, but to retire with the love and esteem of my Companions is to me a greater honor."

The Grand Chapter of Virginia has under its control fifty-one Chapters, 4,782 Royal Arch Masons and a balance in the treasury.

The Deputy District Grand High Priests' reports are printed in full in the Proceedings and make interesting reading.

The following resolution was adopted by the Grand Chapter:

"*Resolved*, That the Revised Text Book as submitted be adopted, and the Grand Lecturer be directed to have 500 copies of the same printed under his supervision, and deliver the same, when printed, to the Grand Secretary, who is hereby authorized to sell said Text Book to subordinate Chapters and Royal Arch Masons at cost."

I judge that this means a printed Ritual of the Esotoric Work. If so, such action is to be deplored.

The Committee on Correspondence reviews Pennsylvania amply. It is interesting to note how all through the Committee's work in reviewing there breathes the broad spirit of charity and of a real helpfulness to fellow-workers. I think it may be conceded that many a valuable bit of history and criticism has been made available through the several Committees on Correspondence.

G. H.

## WASHINGTON.

The M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Washington assembled in Twenty-third Annual Convocation in the Masonic Temple, Tacoma, and was called to order by the M. E. Grand High Priest, M. E. Richard S. Nicholls, at the hour of ten o'clock A.M., who appointed Rev. Companion Robert S. Stubbs as Grand Chaplain.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, assisted by the proper officers, opened the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Washington in Ample Form.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a business-like and plain statement of duties performed. I quote a few of his dispensations and decisions.

Dispensations granted:

"On November 26, 1906, I granted Sprague Chapter, No. 6, a dispensation to use one substitute in conferring the Royal Arch degree.

"On December 5, 1906, I granted a dispensation to Oriental Chapter,

No. 19, to hold the stated annual meeting on December 19 for election of officers; the stated meeting occurring on December 25, 1906.

"On December 19, 1906, I granted a dispensation to West Shore Chapter, No. 13, to use a substitute in the Royal Arch degree.

"On December 26, 1906, I granted a dispensation to Tacoma Chapter, No. 4, to receive and ballot upon the petition of Brother George Wright, a master mariner, on January 3, 1907; it appearing that Brother Wright was well known to the Companions of that Chapter.

"On May 15, 1907, I granted a dispensation to West Shore Chapter, No. 13, to use a substitute in the Royal Arch degree.

"On May 15, 1907, I granted a dispensation to Snohomish Chapter, No. 15, to receive one petition and ballot on three petitions on Wednesday evening, May 22, 1907; for the reason that no quorum was present at the stated Convocation of May 15, 1907."

## Decisions:

"I received a communication from Davenport Chapter, No. 25, asking for a decision on a statement of facts fully set forth in the communication. The question briefly stated is this: 'A Companion of this Chapter on the 20th day of October, 1906, was expelled by a Lodge of F. & A. M., of which he was a member, for unmasonic conduct; this Chapter was officially notified of his expulsion. What action should the High Priest take? Simply direct the Secretary to expunge his name from the roll of membership, or submit it to a vote of the Chapter?'

"I advised the Chapter that 'on the receipt and reading in the open body of your Chapter of the official notice from ———— Lodge, No. ——, F. & A. M., of the expulsion of Bro. ————, the Excellent High Priest should order it made a matter of record in the Chapter books, and declare the Companion expelled from the Chapter, by virtue of Section 47 (old By-Laws) or 51 (new By-Laws) of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Washington. The Secretary should notify the Grand Chapter in the next annual report to the same, under the head of expulsion. A ballot is not required.'

"The correspondence is in the hands of the Grand Secretary."

His recommendations are valuable and were approved by the Grand Chapter.

## Recommendations:

"1. I recommend that a period of six months shall elapse after a Brother has been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason before he shall be eligible to present a petition to a Chapter for the degrees.

"2. I recommend that before a petitioner shall receive the Chapter degrees, that he shall be required to pass a satisfactory examination as to his knowledge of the Master Mason's degree.

"3. I recommend that, following the conferring of each of the Chapter degrees, the Companion shall be required to commit to memory the signs and words of each degree, and shall also be required to have a sufficient knowledge of the initiatory ceremony of each of the degrees to 'present satisfactory specimens of his skill.'

"4. That, in view of the fact that the Signet cannot be obtained (it being out of print), the Gould Monitor be secured for the use of the Chapters.

"5. I recommend that there be placed at the disposal of the M. E. Grand High Priest a fund, not to exceed $150.00, for use in visitations during the coming year, and that he be allowed in addition to that sum his actual traveling expenses."

The Treasurer reports cash on hand June 14, 1907, $2,657.-65; bonds (investment), $1,000.00.

The Secretary reports a total membership December 31, 1906, of 2,357; Chapters, 27.

I quote from the Grand Orator's address the following, as well worth repeating:

"It has been a favorite inspiration of the poet, a preferred allegory of the writers of the masterpieces of literature, to speak of life as a highway, a path, a road.

"Our Masonic life may with equal propriety be likened to a journey. With infantile steps we begin the pathway as an Entered Apprentice, groping in the darkness of ignorance, traveling a way we have not hitherto known. When brought to light we behold a wealth of knowledge, but we realize that we cannot grasp its meaning.

"As we go on, following the guide posts of brotherly love, relief and truth, we find ourselves as Fellow Crafts at the foot of the stairs which leads to the inner court of King Solomon's temple.

"With determined steps, in quest of Divine truth, 'the comprehension of which passeth human understanding,' we struggle upward to heights of science and knowledge. Later we find that our path as Master Masons must at times be rough and rugged, and that we must be equal to the sacrifices which honor demands. In our efforts to proceed further, we are taught as Mark Masters that we must present work both good, true and square, and that we should receive therefor only such wages as be due. Ever advancing, we assume the rank and responsibility of a Past Grand

Master and are taught the duties of the Chair. . In seeking further knowledge we are received and acknowledged as Most Excellent Masters, and as such are qualified for that grand triumph of effort and struggle in the rebuilding of the Temple to the living God; but before we can be exalted to the august degree of a Royal Arch Mason we must realize in the bitterest and most heart-rending experiences that life's pathway is strewn with thorns as well as roses."

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Companion Yancey B. Blalock. He quotes quite at length, without comment, from the Proceedings of our Grand Chapter; and really it seems to me that as the reviews of Grand Chapter Proceedings are intended for the benefit of the individual Grand Chapter, what the Craft wishes to know is what is going on and what has been done by other Grand Chapters, and unless a Companion writer is unusually gifted his comments are apt to be either silly or vague. Furthermore, there are a great number of Companions who are capable of forming their own opinions, and it is a waste of time and effort to stuff them with what is too often improper and therefore not nutritious food. I have therefore read with great interest Companion Blalock's collection of facts from the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters, and would like to know him, for he must be an uncommonly sensible man.

G. H.

## WEST VIRGINIA.

The Thirty-sixth Grand Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of West Virginia was held in Masonic Temple in the city of Huntington, on the 13th day of November, 1906. Comp. George M. Ford, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. D. K. Reed, P. G. H. P., R. E. Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand High Priest is thoughtful and instructive. I quote some passages from it:

"COMPANIONS:—Another year has passed. While in youth a year seems a long time to contemplate, yet as we grow older the successive milestones appear to be closer and closer together. We can scarcely realize that one year has elapsed since you conferred upon me the distinguished honor of electing me to the office of Grand High Priest.

" 'The velocity with which time flies is infinite,
As is most apparent to those who look back.'

" 'Like as waves make toward the pebbled shore,
So do our minutes hasten to their end.
Each changing place with that which goes before,
In sequent toil all forwards do contend.' "

As we of Pennsylvania are not members of the General Grand Chapter, it may interest the Companions to quote the description the Grand High Priest gives of his visit to the General Grand Chapter:

"Through the courtesy of this Grand Chapter, I was permitted to attend the Thirty-third Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, held in the city of Boston, beginning June 19, A.D. 1906. Of the forty-four Grand Chapters composing the General Grand Chapter, only three were unrepresented. About 250 Representatives were present, and the regularity of the attendance was noticeable.

"The Convocation was of great interest to me, as good fellowship and harmony existed to a marked degree. The first and second days were given to the regular routine business of the General Grand Chapter, such as opening, hearing addresses of welcome from the Governor of the State, the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts, the Grand Master of Masons, and other dignitaries, and the responses thereto; also the address of the General Grand High Priest, reports of Committees and the election of officers for the next three years.

"The third day was given to the disposal of reports of Committees, the installation of officers and other incidental business. The principal Committee reports considered were Finance, Jurisprudence and Charters. That on Jurisprudence, taking opposite views to that of the Special Committee appointed three years ago on the subject of the regularity of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Porto Rico, reported in favor of such

recommendation in so far as the membership of Borinquer Chapter is concerned, and its recommendation was adopted.

"The Committee on Charters reported against the granting of a charter to the Companions at Havana, on the ground that it was unwise to grant charters to Chapters until they prove their worthiness by work under dispensation. Charters were granted to Chapters at Manila, Philippine Islands; at Provo, Utah, and at Weiser, Idaho. Other matters of minor importance came up, and as a whole the Convocation was the largest and most enjoyable ever held.

"Only those who have been privileged to attend a Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter can appreciate the pleasures we enjoyed while there. I fear that too many of us fail to realize the beauty and grandeur of the Capitular degrees. If each member of the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction were to attend one of these meetings, observe the beautiful ceremonies, and hear the wisdom as voiced by the many Past Grand High Priests in attendance, I am confident that Royal Arch Masonry would receive such impetus as nothing else would cause. Unfortunately many of our Companions, failing to profit by the teachings which the degrees are intended to convey, do not appreciate the beauties of Royal Arch Masonry."

He notices in eloquent language the death of Past Grand High Priest William Charles Hamilton:

"Pennsylvania—William Charles Hamilton, Past Grand High Priest, entered into rest at his home in Philadelphia, September 16, 1906. He was a well-known ritualist, a teacher of the Craft in its language and its symbols, and endeared himself to all who knew him. His works, as they were known a quarter of a century ago, must speak for him as a zealous and devoted officer and member of the Grand Chapter."

The Grand Chapter of West Virginia has under its jurisdiction 3,475 Companions and thirty-two Chapters, two of them U. D.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows:

"The annual election of officers being next in order, M. E. Grand High Priest appointed as tellers Companions J. M. McConihay and J. M. Hawkins. Ballots were taken and the following Companions were duly elected:

"Companion Joseph C. LeSage, M. E. Grand High Priest.

"Companion Tom G. Strickler, R. E. Grand King.

"Companion John W. DeVeber, R. E. Grand Scribe.

"Companion Samuel N. Myers, P. G. H. P., R. E. Grand Treasurer.
"Companion D. K. Reed, P. G. H. P., R. E. Grand Secretary.

The review of Pennsylvania by Companion J. D. Baines is quite long and discusses the question of the recording of Marks. I give his views, in order that the Companions of Pennsylvania may see how an intelligent Mason looks at the question:

"In recording the Marks, the following rules were formulated: The Mark must be drawn—not pasted—within the circle and letters in the keystone. A written description is not a Mark. The date of receiving the degree must be stated. The first or middle name must be written in full. Initials do not answer the purpose. Ink, not lead pencil, must be used. The Book must be indexed. This rule is amusing, viz.: that 'a description of the Mark should be given in every case, as it frequently occurs that the Mark is unintelligible without it.'

"This examination of Mark Books has cost $800, and $150 has been appropriated to complete the examination. Is this expenditure justified by the importance of the matter?

"Mark Books are never up to date. Grand Chapters have scolded, threatened, and legislated about the neglect to record a Mark. Spasmodic efforts, as in the case of Pennsylvania, induce a temporary observance of the law, but the Chapters soon drop back into the careless habit of permitting the Mark Book to become practically blank. Very few men can devise an appropriate or significant Mark; and still fewer Secretaries have artistic skill to record it. Most of the Marks we have seen are meaningless, and the recordations little better than caricatures. A Companion, who was an insurance man, drew as his Mark a house burning up. No reputable insurance company would have insured such a shanty as was drawn. No wonder that a wag wrote under it the legend, 'Eighty per cent. Co-insurance, with Inventory and Iron Safe Clauses.' We take the liberty of injecting into this review the opinion that the whole system of Marks should be abolished. The integrity of the degree would not be affected one whit. True, a Mark Master's obligation speaks beautifully about 'his mark.' So the working tools of the several degrees are said to be 'presented' to the candidate, while, as a matter of fact, they are not. The Knight of Malta is enjoined to wear the Jewel of the Order near his heart 'and never lay it aside,' but, except in a figurative sense, he is not expected to do so. The failure to comply with the law in the matter of his Mark is not due to indifference or contumacy upon the part of a Com-

panion. Rarely has he the ingenuity to conceive a Mark worth recording, and no law of Masonry requires a Secretary to be an artist."

G. H.

## WISCONSIN.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Wisconsin was opened in Ample Form in the Royal Arch degree in the Masonic Building, corner of Jefferson and Oneida streets, in the city of Milwaukee, on Tuesday morning, February 19, 1907, at ten o'clock, with the following: John Grimshaw, Grand High Priest; William W. Perry, Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand High Priest shows a careful supervision of the Craft and a grasp of affairs. The opening sentences voice sentiments which appeal to us all.

"COMPANIONS:—In a few short hours we will close and seal another volume of our Grand Chapter's history. There is a touch of sadness in the ending of a year, but we will soon start out on another milestone of time, with its cares and disappointments, and again battle with the great problems that confront us, to witness the closing events of a similar period of time. But while we meet in each Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, with the past gone and the future before us, glad that we have reached another new year, proud of every noble deed, with buoyant hearts, for they tell of change, progress, of the advent of fresh and new, and we hope greater splendor and larger happiness."

His decision in the following matter is sound:

"March 3, 1906, I received the following communication from Kenosha Chapter, No. 3, Kenosha, Wisconsin:

" 'We have a Brother here who was made a Mason in Scotland, and after coming here affiliated with us. He claims to have received the Mark Master and Past Master degrees in Edinburgh, Defensive Band Choir Master Lodge, No. 2, Scotland, which are not conferred there under the Chapter jurisdiction, and furnishes certificate as to the Mark degree. He now desires to go on in the Chapter and take the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch degrees, and has presented his petition.

" '*Question:* Can we go on and confer the M. E. M. and Royal Arch

degrees, after satisfying ourselves as to his having received the M. M. and P. M. degrees, and what fees should be charged?'

"*Answer:* Take action on the Brother's petition in regular form. If elected, declare him elected to receive the several degrees of M. M., P. M., M. E. M. and Royal Arch. Collect full fee for each degree."

The report of the Grand Secretary shows a membership January 1, 1907, of 8,009 and seventy-seven Chapters. The report of the Grand Treasurer shows receipts for the year of $11,588.73, with expenditures of $4,781.40. The report of the Grand Lecturer shows, in part, as follows:

"Pursuant to your order, I have held Schools of Instruction in forty-one Chapters, being the list reported by the Committee on Instruction at the last Annual Convocation, except that I dropped Sheboygan and Lancaster from the list and substituted therefor Columbia and Richland. This change was made for the reason that the Chapters dropped did not group conveniently with the others listed for visitation, and the Chapters added were visited to save unnecessary travel for the Grand Lecturer for 1907.

"The forty-one visits were made as follows: Five in March, 1906; eleven in December, 1906, and twenty-five since January 7, 1907.

"I have found something to do at each Chapter visited, and at several of these Schools of Instruction the time was too short to do the work that should be done.

"As a rule, I think that the several Chapters visited have paid more attention to the work of the Royal Arch degree than to the preceding Chapter degrees, and in my visits to Chapters I have devoted considerable time to the work of the lower degrees, especially the first of the series (the M. M. M.).

"When time has permitted, I have asked for an exemplification of the M. E. M. degree, and my observation leads me to believe that many of our Chapters are not getting as much out of this degree as they could and should.

"It is one of the most beautiful degrees of the series and should not be neglected.

"In my work of instruction I have conferred but one degree on an actual candidate, and that was the M. E. degree, which was conferred at the request of Richland Chapter.

"Many of our smaller Chapters do not get work enough to keep up the interest. Several of them do not average an annual class, and without the stimulus of work it is difficult to arouse and maintain an active interest in the ritual."

We would like to give in full the report of the Committee on Obituary, but content ourselves by giving the following beautiful extract:

"You recall those significant words that have been the mainspring of action in the heart of every true Companion, '*Holiness to the Lord.*' What a magnificent motto, strong and pliant enough for earth's most strenuous struggles and enduring enough for the everlasting youth of heaven! '*Holiness*' means *wholeness, completeness;* gladly and freely *giving* ourselves, body and soul, *dedicating* ourselves, as the slaves of ancient times did, to the service of the great '*I Am.*' Did this masterly motto *seize* and *hold* as in a vice our souls, what regal lives would we not live and kingly deeds would we not accomplish! Standing at the tomb of our Companions, as we do in this hour, we long and hope that this oldest and mightiest of mottos sank deep into their souls and held them true to their sacred vows. Then we are sure that in death they were welcomed with the tenderest of greetings, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'

"Not dress, but *character;* not possessions, but *being;* not mere empty words, but great, big, loving *deeds* are the minted coin that pass current in that awful and sublime Future into which we are hastening."

The Committee on Correspondence reviews Pennsylvania, giving extracts from the opinions of members of our Committee on Correspondence, and we have read with interest Companion Swain's comments throughout his report. They are singularly free from carping criticism and present a comprehensive view of the doings of the several Grand Chapters and give evidence of a fine spirit.

Homer B. Hubbell, Grand High Priest.

W. W. Perry, Grand Secretary.

G. H.

## CONCLUSION.

Companion R. A. Masons of Pennsylvania:—We have endeavored to bring before you the thought and the work of the Royal Arch Masons of other Jurisdictions, as they have been made known to us. Methods may differ—even sharp differences may exist on many points—yet beneath is after all the fundamental, undying belief that the great commandment, Love to God and to fellow-man, lies at the very basis of our institution. As has been well said, "It is easier to moralize than to be moral," so it is easier to criticise than to accomplish. It seems to me that it is wiser to note and make our own that which helps us to a nobler manhood, a clearer vision of what Royal Arch Masonry really is, than to pick out shortcomings which violate no principle, but are simply vagaries. We all believe in the eternal verities, Faith, Hope, Love, and with such as our dearest possessions, may realize complete happiness; the longing of every soul.

G. H.

# OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1795-1907.

| Year. | First Grand Chief. | Second Grand Chief. | Third Grand Chief. | Grand Treasurer. | Grand Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1795 | William Ball | | | | |
| 1796 | William M. Smith | | | | |
| 1797 | " | Praise Wadman | John Service | Daniel McKarraher | P. LeBarbier Duplessis |
| 1798 | Jonathan B. Smith | " | Thomas Town | " | " |
| 1799 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1800 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1801 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1802 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1803 | Israel Israel | Jonathan B. Smith | " | " | " |
| 1804 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1805 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1806 | James Milnor | " | Frederick Wolbert | Thomas Amies | " |
| 1807 | " | " | John Phillips | " | " |
| 1808 | " | " | " | " | Thomas Passmore |
| 1809 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1810 | " | " | Frederick Erringer | " | A. H. Cohen |
| 1811 | " | " | " | " | Andrew M. Prevost |
| 1812 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1813 | " | Frederick Erringer | Walter Kerr | " | " |
| 1814 | Richard Tybout | " | B. Jones, Jr. | " | " |
| 1815 | Samuel F. Bradford | " | " | " | " |
| 1816 | Walter Kerr | " | James McAlpin | " | George E. Blake |
| 1817 | " | " | " | " | George A. Baker |
| 1818 | Bayse Newcomb | James McAlpin | Lambert Keatting | " | " |
| 1819 | " | Lambert Keatting | William McCorkle | " | " |
| 1820 | " | William McCorkle | Alphonso C. Ireland | " | " |
| 1821 | " | " | Nathan R. Potts | " | " |
| 1822 | Josiah Randall | Nathan R. Potts | Henry Horn | Frederick Erringer | " |
| 1823 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1824 | Michael Nisbet | Henry Horn | Elhanen W. Keyser | " | Nathan R. Potts |

| Year. | Grand High Priest. | Grand King. | Grand Scribe. | Grand Treasurer. | Grand Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1825 | Michael Nisbet | John Steele, Jr. | Tristram B. Freeman | Frederick Erringer | Nathan R. Potts |
| 1826 | John Steele, Jr. | Tristram B. Freeman | Joseph S. Riley | " | " |
| 1827 | Tristram B. Freeman | Joseph S. Riley | John M. Read | " | Samuel H. Thomas |
| 1828 | Joseph S. Riley | John M. Read | Samuel H. Perkins | " | " |
| 1829 | John M. Read | Samuel H. Perkins | Thomas Kittera | Joseph S. Riley | " |
| 1830 | " | " | Enos S. Gandy | " | " |
| 1831 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1832 | Samuel H. Perkins | Enos S. Gandy | John Y. Black | " | " |
| 1833 | " | " | " | " | John M. Read |
| 1834 | Enos S. Gandy | John Y. Black | Joseph R. Chandler | " | Samuel H. Perkins |
| 1835 | John Y. Black | Joseph R. Chandler | Francis Cooper | " | " |
| 1836 | Joseph R. Chandler | Francis Cooper | George S. Schott | " | " |
| 1837 | " | " | " | " | Samuel M. Stewart |
| 1838 | " | " | " | Charles Stout | " |
| 1839 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1840 | " | Alexander Diamond | George Smith | " | Bayse Newcomb |
| 1841 | Alexander Diamond | George Smith | William Whitney | " | Michael Nisbet |
| 1842 | " | William Whitney | William Barger | " | " |
| 1843 | William Whitney | William Barger | John G. Russell | John Thomson | William H. Adams |
| 1844 | " | " | John W. McGrath | " | " |
| 1845 | William Barger | John W. McGrath | John J. Krider | " | " |
| 1846 | " | " | James Simpson | " | " |
| 1847 | John W. McGrath | John J. Krider | " | " | " |
| 1848 | John J. Krider | James Simpson | David C. Skerrett | " | " |
| 1849 | James Simpson | David C. Skerrett | Edward P. Lescure | " | " |
| 1850 | David C. Skerrett | Edward P. Lescure | Anthony Bournonville | " | " |
| 1851 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1852 | Edward P. Lescure | Anthony Bournonville | Robert Frazer | " | " |
| 1853 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1854 | Anthony Bournonville | Harman Baugh | Robert McCulloch | " | " |
| 1855 | Harman Baugh | John C. Smith | Daniel Thompson | " | " |
| 1856 | " | " | " | " | " |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1857 | John C. Smith | Daniel Thompson | Jeremiah L. Hutchinson | John Thomson | William H. Adams |
| 1858 | Daniel Thompson | Benjamin Parke | Harman Yerkes | " | " |
| 1859 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1860 | Benjamin Parke | Harman Yerkes | Jeremiah L. Hutchinson | " | " |
| 1861 | Harman Yerkes | Jeremiah L. Hutchinson | George W. Wood | Peter Williamson | " |
| 1862 | Jeremiah L. Hutchinson | George W. Wood | Samuel C. Perkins | " | " |
| 1863 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1864 | George W. Wood | Samuel C. Perkins | George Griscom | " | " |
| 1865 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1866 | Samuel C. Perkins | George Griscom | Michael Nisbet | " | " |
| 1867 | " | " | " | " | John Thomson |
| 1868 | George Griscom | Michael Nisbet | Charles E. Meyer | " | " |
| 1869 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1870 | Michael Nisbet | Charles E. Meyer | John Wilson, Jr. | " | " |
| 1871 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1872 | Charles E. Meyer | John Wilson, Jr. | Andrew Robeno, Jr. | Thomas Brown | " |
| 1873 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1874 | Andrew Robeno, Jr. | Robert H. Pattison | George E. Wagner | Thomas R. Patton | " |
| 1875 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1876 | George E. Wagner | Alfred R. Potter | William C. Hamilton | " | " |
| 1877 | Alfred R. Potter | William C. Hamilton | Hibbert P. John | " | " |
| 1878 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1879 | William C. Hamilton | Hibbert P. John | Augustus R. Hall | " | " |
| 1880 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1881 | Hibbert P. John | Augustus R. Hall | George W. Kendrick, Jr. | " | Charles E. Meyer |
| 1882 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1883 | Augustus R. Hall | George W. Kendrick, Jr. | Matthias H. Henderson | " | " |
| 1884 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1885 | George W. Kendrick, Jr. | Matthias H. Henderson | James S. Barber | " | " |
| 1886 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1887 | Matthias H. Henderson | James S. Barber | Alexander H. Morgan | " | " |
| 1888 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1889 | James S. Barber | Alexander H. Morgan | Edgar A. Tennis | " | " |
| 1890 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1891 | Alexander H. Morgan | Edgar A. Tennis | Ezra S. Bartlett | " | " |
| 1892 | " | " | " | " | " |

| Year | Grand High Priest. | Grand King. | Grand Scribe. | Grand Treasurer. | Grand Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1893 | Edgar A. Tennis | Ezra S. Bartlett | Richard M. Johnson | Thomas R. Patton | Charles E. Meyer |
| 1894 | " | " | " | " | Charles Cary |
| 1895 | Ezra S. Bartlett | Richard M. Johnson | Michael W. Jacobs | " | " |
| 1896 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1897 | Richard M. Johnson | Michael W. Jacobs | Edward B. Spencer | " | " |
| 1898 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1899 | Michael W. Jacobs | Edward B. Spencer | H. Oscar Kline | " | " |
| 1900 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1901 | Edward B. Spencer | H. Oscar Kline | J. Henry Williams | " | " |
| 1902 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1903 | H. Oscar Kline | J. Henry Williams | William B. Meredith | " | " |
| 1904 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1905 | J. Henry Williams | William B. Meredith | Carl A. Sundstrom | " | " |
| 1906 | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1907 | William B. Meredith | Carl A. Sundstrom | A. G. Criswell Smith | " | " |
| 1908 | " | " | " | Edward B. Spencer | " |

# THE GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1908.

## Its Chapters, Place and Time of Meeting, and Secretaries.

| No. | Name. | Constituted in | Place of Meeting. | Time of Meeting. | Name and Address of Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Jerusalem | 1758 | Philadelphia | Third Monday | Stanislaus Remak, Philadelphia. |
| 21 | Perseverance | 1827 | Harrisburg | First Monday | Charles C. Schriver, Harrisburg. |
| 43 | | 1826 | Lancaster | Third Thursday | William L. Marshall, Lancaster. |
| 52 | Harmony | 1794 | Philadelphia | First Friday | Alexander McCune, Philadelphia. |
| 91 | Columbia | 1822 | Philadelphia | Third Wednesday | Charles F. Wignall, Philadelph a. |
| 150 | Washington | 1827 | Washington | First Thursday | John W. McDowell, Washington. |
| 152 | Reading | 1827 | Reading | Second Monday | Nevin M. Davis, Reading. |
| 159 | Schuylkill | 1838 | Minersville | Third Thursday | Henry Hammer, Minersville. |
| 161 | Union | 1845 | Towanda | Second Wednesday | John W. Codding, Towanda. |
| 162 | Zerubbabel | 1836 | Pittsburg | First Tuesday | Samuel R. Caskey, Pittsburg. |
| 163 | La Fayette | 1848 | Lock Haven | Third Thursday | John Noble, Lock Haven. |
| 164 | Brownsville | 1849 | Brownsville | Second Tuesday | William Seddon, Brownsville. |
| 165 | Union | 1849 | Uniontown | Second Thursday | Luke H. Frasher, Uniontown. |
| 166 | Mt. Moriah | 1849 | Hollidaysburg | Third Tuesday | Harry M. Henshey, Hollidaysburg. |
| 167 | Eureka | 1849 | Rochester | Friday after full moon | James W. Doncaster, Rochester. |
| 169 | Philadelphia | 1850 | Philadelphia | Second Wednesday | John M. Zook, Philadelphia. |
| 170 | Delta | 1851 | New Castle | First Tuesday | Edward L. Smith, New Castle. |
| 171 | St. John's | 1852 | Carlisle | First Thursday | William A. Kamarer, Carlisle. |
| 172 | Temple | 1853 | Tunkhannock | Monday after full moon | Draper Billings, Tunkhannock. |
| 173 | Easton | 1853 | Easton | Second Thursday | Edward B. Arndt, Easton. |
| 174 | Northumberland | 1853 | Sunbury | Tuesday after full moon | Jacob R. Cressinger, Sunbury. |
| 175 | Keystone | 1853 | Philadelphia | Fourth Monday | Allen C. Middleton, Philadelphia. |
| 176 | George Washington | 1854 | Chambersburg | Third Monday | Edmund J. Heart, Chambersburg. |
| 177 | Tamaqua | 1854 | Tamaqua | Friday after full moon | James W. Kershner, Tamaqua. |
| 178 | Catawissa | 1855 | Catawissa | Second Wednesday | Luther B. Kline, Catawissa. |
| 179 | Eureka | 1855 | Carbondale | Last Friday | Horace G. Likeley, Carbondale. |
| 180 | Warren | 1854 | Montrose | Wednesday after full moon | Freeman I. Lott, Montrose. |
| 181 | Lilly | 1855 | Mauch Chunk | Third Tuesday | Laird H. Barber, Mauch Chunk. |

| No. | Name. | Constituted in | Place of Meeting. | Time of Meeting. | Name and Address of Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 182 | Shekinah | 1856 | Wilkes-Barre | Third Monday | John G. Torborg, Wilkes-Barre. |
| 183 | Oriental | 1856 | Philadelphia | Third Thursday | Stockton Bates, Philadelphia. |
| 185 | Lackawanna | 1856 | Scranton | Second Tuesday | James Francis Wardle, Scranton. |
| 186 | Lewistown | 1856 | Lewistown | Third Tuesday | W. F. Eckbert, Jr., Lewistown. |
| 187 | Oriental | 1856 | Conneautville | Third Friday | William E. Wormald, Conneautville. |
| 189 | Mountain | 1858 | Altoona | First Thursday | Timothy Davis, Altoona. |
| 190 | Norristown | 1858 | Norristown | Second Monday | William E. Perry, Norristown. |
| 191 | Solomon | 1858 | Meadville | First Tuesday | James D. Roberts, Meadville. |
| 192 | Urania | 1859 | Greensburg | Thursday after third Tuesday | R. Kay Portser, Greensburg. |
| 193 | Duquesne | 1859 | Pittsburg | Second Friday | William J. Carson, Pittsburg. |
| 194 | Tioga | 1859 | Wellsboro | Second Tuesday | John W. Mather, Wellsboro. |
| 195 | Portage | 1859 | Johnstown | Fourth Tuesday | Willis A. G. Lape, Johnstown. |
| 196 | Mountain City | 1859 | Pottsville | Fourth Monday | Alfred J. Derr, Pottsville. |
| 197 | Weidle | 1860 | Lebanon | Second Tuesday | William Winfred Walter, Lebanon. |
| 198 | Phœnix | 1861 | Phœnixville | Saturday after full moon | Edwin H. McAllister, Phœnixville. |
| 199 | Howell | 1864 | York | Second Wednesday after first Monday | David P. Shultz, York. |
| 200 | Columbus | 1865 | Corry | Second Tuesday | James C. Satterlee, Corry. |
| 201 | Standing Stone | 1865 | Huntingdon | Third Monday | S. Franklin Forgeus, Huntingdon. |
| 202 | Howell | 1866 | West Chester | Second Monday | Barclay Lear, West Chester. |
| 203 | Allen | 1866 | Allentown | First Monday | John F. Wenner, Allentown. |
| 204 | Anthony Wayne | 1866 | Honesdale | Tuesday on or after full moon | Arthur M. Leine, Honesdale. |
| 205 | Factoryville | 1866 | Factoryville | Thursday on or before full moon | Fred M. Francis, Dalton. |
| 206 | Harmony | 1866 | Beaver Falls | First Thursday | George B. Johnston, Beaver Falls. |
| 207 | Aaron | 1866 | Titusville | Third Friday | John S. Bradley, Titusville. |
| 208 | Germantown | 1866 | Germantown, Phila | Third Monday | E. R. Stevens, Germantown, Phila. |
| 209 | Samuel C. Perkins | 1866 | Mechanicsburg | Second Monday | Harry C. Harper, Mechanicsburg. |
| 210 | Great Bend | 1866 | Great Bend | Second Thursday | Thomas Summerton, Great Bend. |
| 211 | Venango | 1866 | Franklin | Second Friday | Charles D. Elliott, Franklin. |
| 212 | Mound | 1866 | Greenville | Fourth Monday | Fred. W. Moser, Greenville. |
| 214 | Valley | 1867 | Plymouth | Fourth Friday | Samuel U. Shaffer, Plymouth. |
| 215 | Temple | 1867 | Erie | Second Friday | Calvin K. Dickinson, Erie. |
| 216 | Zinzendorf | 1867 | Bethlehem | Second Tuesday | Matthew J. Schmid, Bethlehem. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 217 | Allegheny | 1868 | Allegheny | First Friday | Harvey P. Wylie, Allegheny. |
| 218 | Bloomsburg | 1868 | Bloomsburg | First Thursday | George E. Wilbur, Bloomsburg. |
| 219 | Griscom | 1868 | Ashland | Third Thursday | James Magrady, Locust Gap. |
| 220 | Fort Washington | 1868 | Fort Washington | Saturday after full moon | James W. Van Billiard, North Wale. |
| 221 | Tremont | 1869 | Tremont | Third Thursday | Benjamin Kaufman, Tremont. |
| 222 | Lycoming | 1869 | Williamsport | Second Tuesday | Wm. Clarence King, Williamsport |
| 223 | Oxford | 1869 | Oxford | Wednesday after full moon | Morrison E. Snodgrass, Oxford. |
| 224 | Corinthian | 1869 | Columbia | Second Tuesday | Luther J. Schroeder, Columbia. |
| 225 | Jefferson | 1869 | Brookville | First Monday | Cyrus H. Blood, Brookville. |
| 226 | Siloam | 1869 | Frankford, Phila | Third Wednesday | Matthias Coats, Frankford, Phila. |
| 227 | Emporium | 1870 | Emporium | Third Tuesday | John D. Logan, Emporium. |
| 228 | Clearfield | 1870 | Clearfield | Third Friday | Benjamin F. Chase, Clearfield. |
| 230 | Elk | 1870 | Ridgway | Third Tuesday | George L. McCracken, Ridgway. |
| 232 | St. John | 1871 | Philadelphia | First Tuesday | William F. Tracy, Philadelphia. |
| 233 | Kensington | 1871 | Philadelphia | Fourth Monday | Joseph Crockett, Philadelphia. |
| 234 | Media | 1871 | Media | Fourth Monday | Stephen H. Appleton, Media. |
| 235 | Occidental | 1871 | Warren | Second Monday | I. Henry Mott, Warren. |
| 236 | Oil City | 1871 | Oil City | Third Monday | Henry C. Goldsborough, Oil City. |
| 237 | Excelsior | 1871 | Reading | Third Tuesday | Thomas E. Weber, Reading. |
| 238 | Newport | 1872 | Newport | Monday after full moon | Melvin W. Watson, Newport. |
| 239 | Danville | 1872 | Danville | First Monday | John W. Farnsworth, Danville. |
| 240 | Palestine | 1872 | Philadelphia | Second Friday | Edward R. Marsh, Philadelphia. |
| 241 | Bellefonte | 1872 | Bellefonte | First Friday | Charles Theodore Noil, Bellefonte. |
| 242 | Pittston | 1873 | Pittston | Second Thursday | Thomas W. Kyte, West Pittston. |
| 243 | T. B. Freeman | 1873 | Philadelphia | First Tuesday | Charles C. Judd. Philadelphia. |
| 244 | Norman | 1873 | Sharon | Second Friday | George H. Murchie, Sharon. |
| 245 | Abington | 1873 | Jenkintown | Third Tuesday | James W. Hunsberger, Weldon. |
| 246 | Warrior Run | 1874 | Watsontown | Wednesday after full moon | Fred. A. Reen, Watsontown. |
| 247 | Orient | 1874 | Kittanning | Second Monday | William F. Rupp, Kittanning. |
| 248 | Temple | 1874 | Philadelphia | Third Tuesday | William H. Ziegler, Philadelphia. |
| 249 | Monongahela | 1874 | Monongahela | Third Thursday | John P. Norman, Monongahela. |
| 250 | Corinthian | 1874 | Philadelphia | First Monday | William Ross, Philadelphia. |
| 251 | Signet | 1874 | Philadelphia | Fourth Friday | William C. Ash, Philadelphia. |
| 252 | Mizpah | 1875 | Mahanoy City | Fourth Thursday | Phaon Hermany, Mahanoy City. |
| 254 | Arnold | 1877 | Port Allegany | Second Tuesday | Clement H. Cole, Port Allegany. |
| 255 | Bedford | 1876 | Bedford | Third Thursday | D. Cress Reiley, Bedford. |

| No. | Name. | Constituted in | Place of Meeting. | Time of Meeting. | Name and Address of Secretary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 256 | University | 1877 | Philadelphia | Third Tuesday | J. Milton Lutz, Llanerch. |
| 257 | Shiloh | 1877 | Pittsburg | Third Monday | George W. Robitzer, Pittsburg. |
| 258 | Chester | 1877 | Chester | Third Tuesday | Edward A. Price, Jr., Media. |
| 259 | Eden | 1878 | Clarion | Second Tuesday | Henry S. Lockart, Shippensville. |
| 260 | Bradford | 1880 | Bradford | Third Thursday | Ambrose D. Sloan, Bradford. |
| 261 | Troy | 1882 | Troy | Thursday on or before full moon | Charles N. Greene, Troy, Bradford Co. |
| 262 | Montgomery | 1882 | Ardmore | Third Thursday | Isaac A. Cleaver, Ardmore. |
| 263 | Coudersport | 1882 | Coudersport | First Wednesday | Lalon R. Bliss, Coudersport. |
| 264 | Shamokin | 1883 | Shamokin | Second Wednesday | John B. Savidge, Shamokin. |
| 265 | Westfield | 1883 | Westfield | First Friday | William A. Ritter, Westfield. |
| 266 | Good Samaritan | 1886 | Gettysburg | Third Thursday | Dan A. Skelly, Gettysburg. |
| 267 | Coatesville | 1887 | Coatesville | Thursday after full moon | J. Howard Coates, Coatesville. |
| 268 | Pittsburgh | 1888 | Pittsburg | Second Monday | Archie K. Henderson, Pittsburg. |
| 269 | Ulysses | 1888 | Ulysses | Second Wednesday | Homer K. Lane, Ulysses. |
| 270 | Doylestown | 1889 | Doylestown | Tuesday on or before full moon | Frederick Constantine, Doylestown. |
| 271 | Pottstown | 1890 | Pottstown | Third Tuesday | Timothy Shive, Pottstown. |
| 272 | Hebron | 1890 | Meyersdale | Second Monday | Martin A. Rutter, Meyersdale. |
| 273 | Butler | 1891 | Butler | Third Tuesday | William A. Stein, Butler. |
| 274 | Bangor | 1891 | Bangor | Fourth Wednesday | Robert S. Wagner, Bangor. |
| 275 | Kennett | 1892 | Kennett Square | Wednesday after full moon | Philip H. Bratton, Kennett Square. |
| 276 | The Susquehanna | 1892 | Susquehanna | Second Friday | George W. Gleason, Susquehanna. |
| 277 | Hazleton | 1893 | Hazleton | Third Monday | Hiram P. Kuntz, Hazleton. |
| 278 | Catasauqua | 1894 | Catasauqua | Second Monday | Edmund Randall, Catasauqua. |
| 279 | Kane | 1895 | Kane | Third Wednesday | Charles A. Dickinson, Kane. |
| 280 | Cyrus | 1898 | Carnegie | Third Thursday | William A. Love, Carnegie. |
| 281 | Monroe | 1898 | Stroudsburg | Second Friday | Benjamin F. Morey, Stroudsburg. |
| 282 | McKeesport | 1899 | McKeesport | Second Thursday | Scott M. Stewart, McKeesport. |
| 283 | Connellsville | 1900 | Connellsville | Second Thursday | Samuel G. Zimmerman, Connellsville. |
| 284 | Melita | 1903 | Philadelphia | Second Monday | Samuel Shaw, Philadelphia. |
| 285 | Wilkinsburg | 1904 | Wilkinsburg | Second Friday | Albert W. Nicholson, Wilkinsburg. |
| 286 | Bellevue | 1904 | Bellevue | Second Friday | Seward M. Ward, Bellevue. |
| | | | **MARK LODGES.** | | |
| 91 | Columbia | 1825 | Philadelphia | Second Monday | William P. Buzby, Philadelphia. |
| 214 | Girard | 1847 | Philadelphia | Second Tuesday | Thomas S. Woodbury, Philadelphia. |
| 216 | Excelsior | 1854 | Philadelphia | Third Tuesday | Samuel W. Wray, Philadelphia. |

# STATISTICS.

## From General Returns of Chapters to December 27, 1907.

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Jerusalem, | 46 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 493 |
| 21 | Perseverance, | 17 | 3 | 7 | | 1 | 241 |
| 43 | | 17 | 1 | 5 | | 2 | 296 |
| 52 | Harmony, | 46 | 7 | 18 | 24 | 3 | 1195 |
| 91 | Columbia, | 69 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 659 |
| 150 | Washington, | 15 | 3 | 4 | | 1 | 247 |
| 152 | Reading, | 10 | 2 | 8 | | 6 | 231 |
| 159 | Schuylkill, | 5 | | | | | 43 |
| 161 | Union, | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | | 225 |
| 162 | Zerubbabel, | 97 | 11 | 15 | 3 | 4 | 1065 |
| 163 | LaFayette, | 1 | | 3 | 1 | | 120 |
| 164 | Brownsville, | 7 | | 1 | | | 141 |
| 165 | Union, | 10 | 6 | 2 | | 1 | 216 |
| 166 | Mount Moriah, | 1 | | 3 | | | 100 |
| 167 | Eureka, | 17 | | 2 | | | 130 |
| 169 | Philadelphia, | 19 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 269 |
| 170 | Delta, | 35 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 319 |
| 171 | St. John's, | 8 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 117 |
| 172 | Temple, | 14 | | 1 | | 2 | 108 |
| 173 | Easton, | 29 | | 5 | 1 | 3 | 263 |
| 174 | Northumberland, | 16 | | 2 | | 1 | 104 |
| 175 | Keystone, | 33 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 555 |
| 176 | George Washington, | 8 | 1 | 2 | | | 116 |
| 177 | Tamaqua, | 9 | | 1 | | | 62 |
| 178 | Catawissa, | 3 | | | | | 31 |
| 179 | Eureka, | 16 | | 3 | | | 152 |
| 180 | Warren, | 5 | 1 | 2 | | | 34 |
| 181 | Lilly, | 4 | | 4 | | | 122 |
| 182 | Shekinah, | 36 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 371 |
| 183 | Oriental, | 42 | 1 | 28 | 36 | 1 | 1155 |
| 185 | Lackawanna, | 47 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 433 |
| 186 | Lewistown, | 7 | | 4 | | | 93 |
| 187 | Oriental, | 9 | | 1 | | | 78 |
| 189 | Mountain, | 13 | | 8 | | | 335 |
| 190 | Norristown, | 21 | | 9 | 2 | 1 | 385 |
| 191 | Solomon, | 6 | | 3 | 1 | 3 | 81 |
| 192 | Urania, | 23 | 1 | 6 | | | 305 |
| 193 | Duquesne, | 66 | 3 | 9 | | 3 | 843 |
| 194 | Tioga, | 5 | 2 | 2 | | | 62 |
| 195 | Portage, | 9 | 1 | | | | 188 |

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 196 | Mountain City, | 13 | | 1 | | | 147 |
| 197 | Weidle, | 10 | | 3 | | | 139 |
| 198 | Phœnix, | 17 | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 219 |
| 199 | Howell, | 14 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 214 |
| 200 | Columbus, | 9 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 99 |
| 201 | Standing Stone, | 2 | | 2 | | | 98 |
| 202 | Howell, | 14 | | 3 | 1 | | 109 |
| 203 | Allen, | 18 | 1 | 7 | | | 254 |
| 204 | Anthony Wayne, | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | 71 |
| 205 | Factoryville, | 8 | | 1 | 1 | | 64 |
| 206 | Harmony, | 19 | | 2 | | 4 | 124 |
| 207 | Aaron, | 1 | | | | | 58 |
| 208 | Germantown, | 28 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 253 |
| 209 | Samuel C. Perkins, | 6 | | | | | 74 |
| 210 | Great Bend, | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 38 |
| 211 | Venango, | 19 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 206 |
| 212 | Mound, | 10 | 1 | 2 | | | 154 |
| 214 | Valley, | 2 | | 5 | 16 | 3 | 78 |
| 215 | Temple, | 11 | 2 | 5 | 1 | | 274 |
| 216 | Zinzendorf, | 13 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 127 |
| 217 | Allegheny, | 60 | | 18 | 1 | | 812 |
| 218 | Bloomsburg, | 11 | | | | | 80 |
| 219 | Griscom, | 8 | | 2 | | | 99 |
| 220 | Fort Washington, | 4 | | | | | 40 |
| 221 | Tremont, | 9 | | 1 | | | 78 |
| 222 | Lycoming, | 42 | 1 | 7 | 1 | | 353 |
| 223 | Oxford, | 10 | | | | | 97 |
| 224 | Corinthian, | 7 | | 5 | | | 123 |
| 225 | Jefferson, | 21 | | 1 | 1 | 5 | 257 |
| 226 | Siloam, | 17 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 228 |
| 227 | Emporium, | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 86 |
| 228 | Clearfield, | 8 | | 2 | | 1 | 172 |
| 230 | Elk, | 12 | 3 | 2 | | 4 | 139 |
| 232 | St. John, | 17 | 3 | 8 | 17 | 4 | 277 |
| 233 | Kensington, | 40 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 528 |
| 234 | Media, | 9 | 1 | 2 | | | 100 |
| 235 | Occidental, | 13 | 4 | 1 | | 6 | 141 |
| 236 | Oil City, | 32 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | 182 |
| 237 | Excelsior, | 16 | 5 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 435 |
| 238 | Newport, | 2 | | | | | 57 |
| 239 | Danville, | 8 | | 1 | | 4 | 77 |
| 240 | Palestine, | 32 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 524 |
| 241 | Bellefonte, | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | 106 |
| 242 | Pittston, | 8 | | 1 | 1 | 6 | 129 |

| No. | Name. | Marked. | Adm. | Died. | Res. | Susp. | Memb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 243 | T. B. Freeman, | 49 | 1 | 15 | 9 | 2 | 746 |
| 244 | Norman, | 15 | | | | | 169 |
| 245 | Abington, | 5 | | 3 | 1 | | 83 |
| 246 | Warrior Run, | 6 | | 2 | | | 105 |
| 247 | Orient, | 33 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 250 |
| 248 | Temple, | 44 | | 2 | 3 | 3 | 277 |
| 249 | Monongahela, | 21 | | 1 | | 3 | 230 |
| 250 | Corinthian, | 25 | | 12 | 2 | | 347 |
| 251 | Signet, | 21 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 182 |
| 252 | Mizpah, | 4 | | | | | 94 |
| 254 | Arnold, | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | 32 |
| 255 | Bedford, | 6 | | | 1 | 3 | 76 |
| 256 | University, | 33 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 455 |
| 257 | Shiloh, | 28 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 16 | 574 |
| 258 | Chester, | 17 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 332 |
| 259 | Eden, | 10 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | 157 |
| 260 | Bradford, | 11 | 6 | 6 | 3 | | 286 |
| 261 | Troy, | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 67 |
| 262 | Montgomery, | 14 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 181 |
| 263 | Coudersport, | 4 | | | | | 68 |
| 264 | Shamokin, | 20 | 2 | 2 | | 5 | 126 |
| 265 | Westfield, | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 36 |
| 266 | Good Samaritan, | 6 | | 3 | 3 | 1 | 99 |
| 267 | Coatesville, | 20 | | 1 | 2 | | 139 |
| 268 | Pittsburgh, | 40 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 440 |
| 269 | Ulysses, | 3 | | 1 | 3 | | 37 |
| 270 | Doylestown, | 2 | | | | 1 | 107 |
| 271 | Pottstown, | 19 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 145 |
| 272 | Hebron, | 6 | | 1 | | | 79 |
| 273 | Butler, | 12 | 2 | 3 | | 1 | 190 |
| 274 | Bangor, | 2 | | | | | 69 |
| 275 | Kennett, | 1 | | | | | 53 |
| 276 | The Susquehanna, | 2 | | 1 | | | 74 |
| 277 | Hazleton, | 9 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 150 |
| 278 | Catasauqua, | 17 | | | 1 | | 132 |
| 279 | Kane, | 5 | | 3 | 1 | | 74 |
| 280 | Cyrus, | 13 | | 2 | 2 | 8 | 230 |
| 281 | Monroe, | 10 | | | | | 110 |
| 282 | McKeesport, | 52 | | 1 | 1 | | 390 |
| 283 | Connellsville, | 6 | | 1 | | | 111 |
| 284 | Melita, | 43 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 384 |
| 285 | Wilkinsburg, | 53 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 235 |
| 286 | Bellevue, | 26 | 1 | | | 1 | 153 |
| | | 2,180 | 158 | 437 | 224 | 192 | 28,177 |

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OF

# PENNSYLVANIA

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| James S. Barber | 1889–1890 |
| Alexander H. Morgan | 1891–1892 |
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| Ezra S. Bartlett | 1895–1896 |
| Michael William Jacobs | 1899–1900 |
| Edward B. Spencer | 1901–1902 |
| Henry Oscar Kline | 1903–1904 |
| J. Henry Williams | 1905–1906 |
| William B. Meredith | 1907–1908 |

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